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80 Tories may vote for referendum

Euro-sceptics offered deal by Goldsmith

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ANDREW PIERCE



It is the
judgment of the
people that is
now required

— Bill Cash, page 18

CONSERVATIVE MPs are being advised today to back a Commons Bill proposing a referendum on Europe to reduce the threat of a general election challenge from Sir James Goldsmith's Referendum Party.

In a move that seems certain to stir the Tory turmoil over Europe, supporters of Bill Cash's Referendum Bill reminded colleagues last night that Sir James has promised not to put up candidates against MPs who favour a plebiscite on Britain's fundamental relations with the European Union.

And sources close to the Referendum Party told *The Times* that MPs who backed the measure today, and remained consistent on the issue up to the election, would be safe from challenge.

In an attempt to lower the political temperature, the Government has decided against formally opposing the Bill this afternoon. Ministers and their aides are to abstain. Aides tempted to back Mr Cash are being told not to, but

at least two unpaid parliamentary private secretaries were considering defying that order and facing the sack.

Mr Cash's measure would ask people whether they favoured a renegotiation of Britain's membership terms to prevent it ever going into a federal Europe or a monetary union. Supporters hope that up to 80 Tory MPs will back it.

Mr Duncan denied that there was anything unduly provocative about his attendance. He told BBC Radio 4: "I think that a cost/benefit analysis of the membership of the EU is a valuable thing to have in politics. I think that any proper assessment of the benefits of the membership of the EU is in many ways overdue."

Another PPS said that he was in favour of the Bill. He said: "It is very tempting for those of us in marginal seats. A number of us would vote for this if we were not part of the payroll. So far, I am minded not to support the Bill because it has no chance of becoming law. If it had a realistic chance of making progress I would support it and live with the consequences."

Sir James, who is expected to stand against David Mellor in Putney at the general election, continued on page 2, col 3

Peter Riddell, page 11
Letters, page 19



The Duke of Edinburgh, who was 75 yesterday, and the Queen tour an exhibition on his life which he opened at the Guildhall in Windsor

The Queen beats Elizabethan record

BY EMMA WILKINS

THE QUEEN becomes the fifth longest reigning English monarch tomorrow when she overtakes a record set by her Tudor namesake.

In 1,000 years of English history, only four other monarchs have enjoyed greater longevity on the throne than the present Queen, who will have to wait until after the millennium to overtake the next record. Elizabeth I came to the throne on November 17,

1558, and died on May 25, 1603. Her glorious reign of 44 years and 126 days saw England's foes confounded with the defeat of the Spanish Armada and boundaries expanded with conquest in the New World. The Queen, who came to the throne on February 6, 1952, has reigned for 44 years and 126 days today.

Both monarchs were aged 25 when they were enthroned but Queen Elizabeth I died shortly before her seventieth birthday — a birthday landmark

the Queen has already celebrated with a dinner party at Windsor Castle. The next record falls in 2002 when the Queen will have reigned longer than Edward III, who lasted on the throne for 50 years from 1327 to 1377.

The 56-year record of Henry III (1216-1272) will fall in 2008. The record of George III, who reigned for 59 years from 1760-1820 with occasional lapses into madness, will fall in 2012. The longest reigning monarch in British history is Queen Victoria, with an

imperial 63 years and 216 days. To surpass her great-great-grandmother, the Queen will have to wait until September 11, 2015, when she will be 89.

It has been a busy week for landmarks, with the Duke of Edinburgh's 75th birthday yesterday and the Trooping the Colour ceremony marking the Queen's official birthday on Saturday.

Letters, page 19

Rifkind faces wrath of EU ministers

BY CHARLES BREMNER IN LUXEMBOURG
AND PHILIP IN LONDON

MALCOLM RIFKIND bore the brunt of the fiercest anti-British attack from Europe for years yesterday when he vetoed another package of measures. But there were signs last night that an accord could end the feud over British beef in time for the Florence summit next week.

The Foreign Secretary again softened his stance by unexpectedly letting through two measures at a council of ministers meeting in Luxembourg, but he insisted that the blocking policy had forced Britain's partners to work on a solution to the crisis. And Jacques Santer, the European Commission President, said: "We may be on the home straight."

Led by Hans Van Mierlo of the Netherlands, all 14 other ministers at the Luxembourg meeting denounced Britain in terms ranging from "blackmail" to "incomprehensible". Hervé de Charette, the French minister whose remarks were said by British officials to have been the mildest, said Britain was shooting itself in the foot. And Lambert Dini of Italy, who is leading the effort to find a compromise by Florence, said: "All ministers

Continued on page 2, col 1

Major struggles to save Ulster talks

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, NICHOLAS WATT
AND AUDREY MAGERS

JOHN MAJOR struggled to keep Unionists at the all-party talks on Northern Ireland last night after the opening day was disrupted by objections to former Senator George Mitchell's role as chairman.

The Prime Minister held behind-the-scenes talks with the three Unionist leaders as a highly-charged day at Stormont was overshadowed by a Sinn Fein protest at being excluded from negotiations.

Gerry Adams, the party president, led Sinn Fein's newly-elected delegates up to the gates of Belfast's Castle Buildings, the venue for the talks, to demand entry, despite the IRA's refusal to renew its ceasefire.

Amid chaotic scenes as more than 100 journalists surrounded Mr Adams, a British official said Sinn Fein could only join the negotiations if the IRA declared a truce.

Mr Major denounced the Sinn Fein protest as "grandstanding", but directed most of his attention to preventing a Unionist walk-out. He faced angry demands to drop the Anglo-Irish agenda for the talks from David Trimble, the Ulster Unionist leader; the

Reverend Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist leader, and Bob McCartney, the leader of the United Kingdom Unionists. Mr Major insisted that Mr Mitchell would be impartial and that an agenda for the talks would not be imposed. However, he said he expected Mr Mitchell to take on his role as chairman.

His comments were echoed by John Bruton, the Irish Prime Minister, who said Mr Mitchell's appointment was tangible evidence of President Clinton's "unswerving support" for the peace process.

Mr Major emphasised that he would not bow to republican pressure to allow Sinn Fein to join the talks before an IRA ceasefire.

In some of his strongest language since the collapse of the ceasefire in February, Mr Major said: "I believe it is wicked that the shadow of violence has reappeared in Northern Ireland. I hope that we are going to get an unequivocal ceasefire before too long."

Unionists last night claimed

that they had successfully delayed the appointment of

Continued on page 2, col 6

Leading article, page 19

Scots field Jerusalem substitute

BY STEPHEN FARRELL
AND ADRIAN LEE

SCOTTISH football supporters drew satisfaction from their 0-0 European Championship draw yesterday — but Scottish Television admitted defeat over the "too English" Euro 96 signature tune.

Protests of bias led to the hasty editing out of the hymn *Jerusalem* for all matches involving the Scotland team. Also gone are video clips of Dover's white cliffs and of Bobby Moore lifting the Jules Rimet trophy after England's 1966 World Cup success.

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Continued on page 2, col 6

Leading article, page 19

BA in biggest air deal

BRITISH airways is expected to announce today that it is linking up with American Airlines to form the world's largest airline group, in a deal that is also likely to end restrictions on foreign planes using British airspace.

The exact terms are unclear although it seems likely that the link will involve revenue and profit-sharing as well as joint marketing. The two airlines will effectively act as one but will remain separate companies.

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Great expectations for schoolgirl novelist

FROM QUENTIN LETTS
IN NEW YORK

A SCHOOLGIRL is on her way to making her first million after a transatlantic publishing deal for her debut novel which has netted \$640,000 (over £400,000) in pre-publication rights.

There has been extraordinary excitement (and hype) in book circles about *Necessary Madness*, a love story set in England. Jean Crowell, now 18, who wrote the book in her penultimate year at secondary school, has never visited Britain and based her research on British television sitcoms and by reading the books of Margaret Atwood and Sue (Adrian Mole) Townsend. Manhattan

publishers yesterday could not think of comparable sums being paid for a novel from one so young. "It seems hard to believe that a kid can be worth that much," said one source. Liza Dawson, Miss Crowell's editor at GP Putnam, said: "Her writing is splendid, very intimate and beautiful." Hodder and Stoughton in London paid £200,000 for British rights to *Necessary Madness* and to Miss Crowell's next book. Publishers in Germany, Denmark, Finland, Italy, Norway and Sweden have paid a total of \$340,000 for rights to the first book, and further sign-ups are expected. There will also be book club deals and other commercial spin-offs. If public reaction when the book is published next year

matches expectations, Miss Crowell will have no difficulty paying her way through the English undergraduate course at Goucher College, Baltimore. Miss Crowell, who lives with her mother and stepfather in Pennsylvania, currently has no boyfriend but a rush of suitors is now probable. *Necessary Madness* took her three months to write, but she had "lived with" the characters since she was 13. Aged 14, she started to attend a writers' workshop, and it was there that she refined her idea. For her editors, there is some readjusting to do. Latching with her, one must learn not to betray too much dismay when one's companion spurns the wine list and orders instead a can of Tizer.



Jenn Crowell: idea for first book when only 13

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De Savary: unrepentant

Tribunal orders de Savary to compensate young chef

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE businessman Peter de Savary was intimidating and untemperate toward a young chef working at his Highland country club, an industrial tribunal said yesterday.

Mr de Savary remained unrepentant after the tribunal's detailed unanimous findings were released. He said that his Carnegie Club at Skibo Castle, where Mick Jagger, Jack Nicholson and Michael Doug-

las are staying, had a reputation big enough to withstand complaints from those he described as rotten apples not up to the job.

The tribunal heard evidence in Inverness a month ago and ruled that Jason Gill of Wantage, Oxfordshire, had been unfairly and constructively dismissed. It was claimed that kitchen staff at Skibo were worked to exhaustion while guests paying £500 a night were pampered upstairs. The tribunal

ordered that Mr Gill be paid almost £3,500 for compensation and loss of earnings.

Mr de Savary, 52, said in London yesterday that Mr Gill and a former head chef, Dolina Swanson, who gave evidence against his company, were rotten apples among a staff of 100. He had employed many thousands since he was 16 and had never been taken to an industrial tribunal before or had disagreements with staff. Mr de Savary said

that he felt the tribunal had painted a one-sided picture and that he had made a mistake in not hiring a lawyer to represent his company.

The tribunal said that Mr de Savary's behaviour towards the chef was unreasonable and unfair. He had broken the mutual trust and confidence there should be between employer and worker by embarrassing Mr Gill's parents when they stayed in a club chalet in lieu of their son being paid £600. Mr Gill told the tribunal: "The first night they were there Mr de Savary came in and asked who the hell they were. When he was told, he said: 'This is not a holiday camp' and my parents left the following day, badly humiliated and embarrassed." The tribunal called Mr de Savary's behaviour "untemperate, inappropriate and unjustified".

A second incident involved salad platters that Mr Gill had prepared after working an 81-hour week. The tribunal said that the public humiliation to which Mr de Savary subjected Mr Gill over the incident had proved the last straw, causing Mr Gill to resign.

The tribunal criticised Mr de Savary's company, Skibo Ltd, for breaking undertakings to pay overtime and to hire more staff. It did not believe that Mr Gill had been rude and unapologetic when approached about the salad platters, as Mr de Savary had claimed.

TV version of how 'H' was killed saddens his widow

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, MEDIA CORRESPONDENT

THE widow of Colonel "H" Jones, the Falklands War commander, said last night that she was saddened by a Channel 4 documentary which suggests that his death was a needless waste.

Sara Jones, whose husband was awarded a posthumous Victoria Cross for his part in the charge on an Argentine trench during the Falklands campaign, said she had not cooperated with Channel 4 programme-makers, who claim to have the first interview with the soldier who killed her husband during the Battle of Goose Green.

The battle was the first time that a battalion was committed to a full attack on the Argentinians after the British force had landed. After an initial advance, the momentum of the 2nd Battalion, The Parachute Regiment, was halted by fierce machinegun fire.

Last night The Parachute

Regiment made clear that Colonel Jones's courageous action was the culminating point in the battle which added resolution and determination to the whole battalion. His actions led to a renewed effort and the eventual surrender of the Argentinians in Goose Green.

Mrs Jones said yesterday: "It would be very sad if they want to paint a negative picture and just take the whole thing over 14 years." She added that it was typical of the mood today "that if anyone does something that is good, then someone has to come and cast aspersions over it".

It had been thought that the colonel died in a hall of machinegun fire and that it was therefore not possible to identify who had killed him. A Channel 4 spokeswoman said, however: "Through research we have found the man who shot him. He will describe the way the colonel died."

added that the programme, the first of a new series of *Secret History*, would transform the accepted view of the battle. It also includes an interview with a British commander who insists that the engagement should never have been fought. "It emerges as very chaotic," she said.

Mrs Jones, who was appointed OBE last year for her work for bereaved military families, said that it was absurd to suggest that the battle should never have been fought. "If you are face to face with your enemy, what else do you do?" she said.

A spokeswoman for the Ministry of Defence said it was astonishing for someone to be able to describe in detail how Colonel Jones died. She added that Channel 4 had not consulted the Armed Forces.

The series is part of a strong summer schedule, announced yesterday, aimed at attracting those who want a respite from the sport that will dominate television. John Willis, Channel 4's director of programmes, said: "We have more than 30 new or returning factual strands and series as well as new comedy and drama."

The channel continues its reputation for polemics with *If I Were Prime Minister*, a series in which public figures detail the changes they would make if they could run the country. Contributors include Germaine Greer and "Mad" Frankie Fraser, the gangland figure who has served more than 30 years in jail for various criminal offences.



The late Colonel H. Jones and his wife Sara. Channel 4 claims to have found the soldier who killed him



The season of art and design graduate shows opened yesterday with a public airing for the creations of Britain's most famous fashion nursery, St Martin's College of Art in central London. The elegant dress by Alfredo Girombelli, above, was one of the collections by the 88 graduating students. However, the fashion designers Roland Klein and Ben De List both said the college risked lowering standards by taking too many students.

Drink-drive suspect 'set fire to lab'

BY RICHARD DUCE

A MAN arrested on suspicion of drink-driving launched two arson attacks on a laboratory to try to destroy his blood sample, the Old Bailey was told yesterday. Aneal Hawes, 22, hired two recruits, including a 15-year-old boy, to help him set fire to the laboratory in Surrey.

The first attack on the Chaffield Applied Research laboratory in Blindley Heath was followed by a second after Mr Hawes learnt that the police prosecution was continuing. Damage to the building totalled £90,000.

Jonathan Laidlaw, for the prosecution, told the jury that Mr Hawes, of East Grinstead, West Sussex, had two samples of his blood taken, one for analysis by police and the other for his own use. Mr Hawes paid £70 for his sample to be independently analysed, when it gave a reading of 52mg of alcohol to 100ml of blood. The police sample produced a reading of 108mg. The legal limit is 80mg.

Mr Laidlaw said Mr Hawes had tampered with his sample and, as it became clear that his attempt to avoid conviction had failed, he attacked the laboratory. Hawes and the boy, who cannot be named, deny charges of arson and attempting to pervert the course of justice. The trial continues.

Smoker goes to court to contest rail cigarette ban

BY PETER FOSTER

A 60-A-DAY smoker began a High Court challenge yesterday against a blanket smoking ban introduced by a regional railway company.

Peter Boddington, 42, was fined £10 with £100 costs last July after he ignored no-smoking signs and lit up in the buffet area of a Network South Central train travelling from London to Brighton.

The businessman, who owns Tooting Market in south London, has since spent over £10,000 on legal fees fighting the conviction.

David Pannick, QC, for Mr Boddington, said the ban, introduced in 1993, was both illegal and unreasonable. He argued that under the Transport Act of 1962, only the British Railways Board had the power to make bylaws to regulate smoking on the railways. Network South Central had no authority.

This is a case of excess and abuse of power, concerned with a person issuing a notice when that person had no lawful power to do so, he added.

Mr Pannick, a non-smoker, also questioned whether it was reasonable for the railways board to use criminal law to prohibit a lawful activity for purely commercial reasons.

Deportee takes refuge in church

BY RICHARD FORD
HOME CORRESPONDENT

A HONG KONG citizen has taken sanctuary in a Methodist chapel after failing to arrive at Heathrow airport to be deported from Britain.

Albert Tong, 43, disappeared hours before he was to leave Britain. He is now living in a Methodist chapel in Marazion, near Penzance, with the support of local church leaders. He arrived in Britain in December 1979 and was allowed entry for a month as a visitor. In February 1992 he was served with a deportation notice.

Mr Tong, who has a wife and three-year-old daughter, said he had no regrets about going on the run. "If I went back to Hong Kong I think I will never come back to see my family."

Ken Taylor, speaking on behalf of Mr Tong's supporters, said they would back his call for sanctuary while the Home Office looked at the case again. The local Methodist Church Council decided ten days ago to offer a refuge to anyone. Elizabeth Fairweather, its treasurer, said: "We felt it was all we could do. It's our Christian duty."

A Home Office spokesman said: "Sanctuary has no basis in law. Anyone who has a deportation order against them is liable to arrest, detention and enforced removal."

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Peer's wife knees burglar in the groin

BY JOANNA BALE

THE elderly wife of the Labour peer Lord Kennet kneed a burglar in the groin after finding him in her home.

Elizabeth Kennet, 71, confronted the man as he emerged from her study in Bayswater, west London, carrying a laptop computer. He tried to escape through what he thought was the back door, but was in fact the downstairs lavatory. It was there that she cornered him and delivered her painful blow.

Lady Kennet, who became a great-grandmother on the same day as the incident last

week, said: "My family have now given me the nickname 'have-a-go great-granny'." She said: "We were in the garden and heard someone in the bathroom. I thought it was our lodger, so I went up in case she was looking for some aspirin or something."

"I said, 'Who are you?' and he replied, 'I'm Tom.' I said: 'Put those things down' and he said, 'I don't want to,' and made for the stairs. I realised I could have kicked him down the stairs, but it could have broken his neck and I didn't think that was Tom — but they have yet to arrest anyone."



Lady Kennet presumes intruder was in pain

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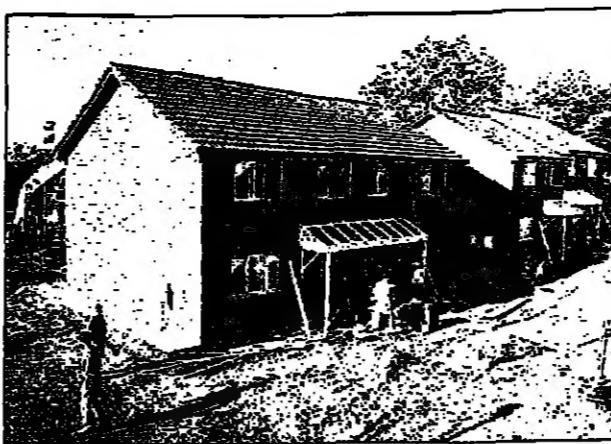
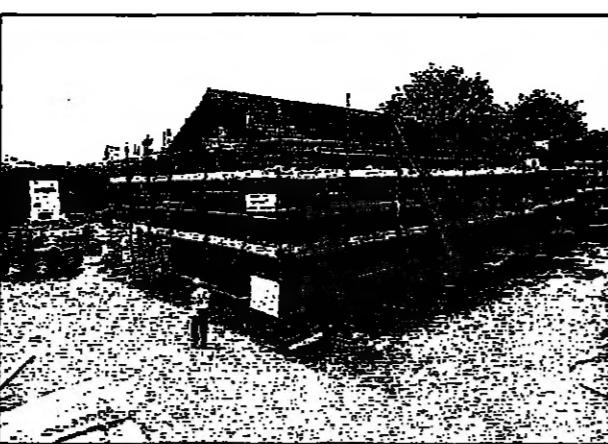
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These four pictures of a street of new houses being built in a week prove that cities can solve their housing shortages, according to council officials in Birmingham (Ian Murray writes).

Eight families moved in as the two and three-bedroom timber-frame homes were finished on time yesterday by Birmingham council and the Midland Area Housing Association. Teams of 120 men worked in shifts round the clock to finish on time. One worker completed

a 36-hour shift as the klaxon sounded to mark the end of the week.

The homes are part of an estate of 37 houses being built at Bartley Green in Birmingham at a cost of £1.6 million. Although some sub-contractors agreed to work round the clock for nothing to make sure the street was completed on

time, the exercise is estimated to have added about £3,000 to the cost of each house.

It will take another 20 weeks, working normal hours, to build the remaining houses.

The council says that it would have to finish one home every 30 minutes for the

next year to house the 17,000 families on its waiting list. In addition, thousands of properties need refurbishment. There are still 4,000 households with outside toilets and half the council houses have no central heating.

The total bill for renovation and building on such a scale would be

£2 billion, but the council can afford a capital programme of only £85 million this year.

If the city were able to spend its receipts from the sale of council houses on building new homes, the council calculates it would be able to afford 2,250 new homes immediately and a further

300 every year, guaranteeing up to 1,000 jobs in the construction industry.

At a party on the site to celebrate completion of the street in a week, David Cowans, the city's housing director, said the project showed that, with proper funding, inner-city housing shortages could be solved.

"There is no question of the will to get people housed and we are working with the private sector and other organisations," he said.

Ministers aim to put GPs in front line of healthcare

By JEREMY LAURANCE, HEALTH CORRESPONDENT

A VISION of the GP surgery of the future in which patients would choose from a menu of services provided by different specialists was unveiled by ministers yesterday.

Consultants from local hospitals, nurses, therapists and pharmacists would combine with GPs to provide care from a new generation of cottage hospitals updated to meet modern needs.

The proposals, contained in a discussion document *Primary Care: The Future*, herald a fundamental change in the way GPs work. New technologies and drugs mean more care can be delivered in and near people's homes rather than in hospital, increasing the burden on GPs.

Changes to a GP's contract would allow family doctors to develop new services geared to local needs for young mothers, adolescents or the elderly. In other, mainly urban areas, salaried GPs would be employed by health authorities to look after the homeless or the mentally ill.

The changes are intended to assist the shift of care from hospital to GP surgery that has been under way for more

than a decade and to ensure a high standard of care is provided everywhere.

People with asthma and diabetes who were previously cared for by hospitals are increasingly looked after by GPs. More post-operative care is given in the surgery and there is more diagnostic testing.

Community care for the mentally ill and disabled has added to the family doctor's responsibilities.

However, the shift of resources has lagged behind and morale among GPs has fallen. In some areas GP trainees have become difficult to recruit.

The report says local flexibility is the key. "Many of those involved felt that the time was right to bring about significant changes to the contracts of GPs to allow more flexibility and greater choice while retaining the traditional strengths of general practice. The health service can then have the opportunity to develop their ideas. Let a thousand flowers bloom."

The document canvasses the possibility of defining a set of "core" services which all GPs would provide, with extra services being negotiated locally with health authorities to

further document setting out an agenda for change.

Mr Dorrell pledged that changes would be tested in voluntary pilot schemes to ensure that they commanded professional support. The health service had already undergone upheavals and there was a need to get away from the "big bang" approach and move towards evolutionary change.

Harriet Harman, the Shadow Health Secretary, accused the Government of failing to deal with the problems of low morale and poor recruitment to general practice. "It is too late for Stephen Dorrell to say he's going to listen to GPs. After years of being ignored, most simply won't believe him," she said.

The British Medical Association welcomed the document but said that any changes should be properly planned and resourced. Dr Ian Bogle, chairman of the association's GPs committee, said that concerns about recruitment, manpower and workload would need to be resolved before Mr Dorrell's wish to see an extension of disciplines working together could be achieved.



Sir Roger wants funds to come from lottery

Bannister calls for £10m sport bursaries

By JOHN GOODBOY

BRITISH university students will receive lottery money for sports scholarships if plans by a government-sponsored working party are approved. Sir Roger Bannister, chairman of the association's GPs committee, said that concerns about recruitment, manpower and workload would need to be resolved before Mr Dorrell's wish to see an extension of disciplines working together could be achieved.

The British Medical Association welcomed the document but said that any changes should be properly planned and resourced. Dr Ian Bogle, chairman of the association's GPs committee, said that concerns about recruitment, manpower and workload would need to be resolved before Mr Dorrell's wish to see an extension of disciplines working together could be achieved.

Mr Bannister added: "For a once great sporting nation, our current international performance sometimes disappoints. In Britain today we must adopt a more methodical and far-sighted approach if we wish to succeed."

"Of course, it is impossible to legislate for sporting genius but we can use a simple formula for success. Select from a wide pool of talent at an early age, add the financial means to provide facilities, coaching and competition and, inevitably, high-level sport will flourish, though Olympic gold medals can never be guaranteed."

He said that, by 2000, half

the British Olympic team was

expected to be or have been, in

higher education. "So we

should plan now."

The Government is now allowing the national Sports Councils to use lottery money for revenue as well as capital purposes, paving the way for athletes to receive financial assistance. The English Sports Council said: "This is an area we find tremendously exciting. We would now like to see the detailed proposals."

'Scratchcard' 550 years old

A YELLOWING piece of parchment found behind the panelled wall of a 15th-century cottage near Ottery St Mary, Devon, could be the world's earliest known "scratchcard".

The authenticity of the 10in by 8in document, written in German and believed to date from 1452, is being researched with the help of the British Library. Simon Poulter, whose firm is handling the research, said it could be worth hundreds of thousands of pounds.

The parchment, known as an *incunabula*, features three illuminated characters side by side and a text promising the winner a monetary prize. Mr Poulter said it was believed to be an indulgence sold by the Church to guilty Christians seeking forgiveness for their sins.

Euro court backs legal aid for fine defaulters

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THOUSANDS of people at risk of jail for defaulting on their fines will be able to claim legal aid after a ruling by the European Court of Human Rights yesterday.

The Government could face a big rise in the legal aid bill after Stephen Benham, who had been imprisoned for 12 days for failing to pay his poll tax, won his claim that his human rights were breached because he had been refused legal aid for his defence. The Strasbourg judges said Mr Benham's rights to a fair trial were breached because he was refused legal aid, even though he faced imprisonment.

The ruling means that thousands of people brought before magistrates every year for fine default and at risk of being jailed for up to three months can now claim legal aid. At present most of them are unrepresented or have not had adequate legal advice.

Lawyers for Mr Benham said the Government would have to change legal aid rules. John Wadham, director of Liberty, which backed Mr Benham's case, said: "People who face imprisonment now have a right to be represented by lawyers. The availability of legal aid in such cases in the future should reduce the number of people wrongly imprisoned by magistrates."

He said the ruling extended

beyond people who have

failed to pay their local taxes,

to those in default on maintenance payments or on fines for minor road traffic penalties, railway or bus offences and some social security offences.

Ben Emmerson, counsel for

Mr Benham, said: "The

Government will face a big

bill. But in many of these cases, the fine defaulter should

never have been imprisoned in the first place — and would not have been, had they been properly legally represented."

The Lord Chancellor's De-

partment said it would study the ruling to see if a change in the rules was needed.

New guidelines were recently

issued to magistrates, tell-

ing them not to jail poll or

council tax debtors. The num-

ber jailed rose from 169 in

1992, the first year the tax was

applied in England and

Wales, to more than 1,200 last

year. However, many people

are jailed for non-payment of

other fines which, the court

said yesterday, may not be

seen as "criminal" in nature

but are to be treated as such

because the penalty is poten-

tially severe.

In 1995, 20,742 people were

jailed for not paying fines, and

1,400 for default on council

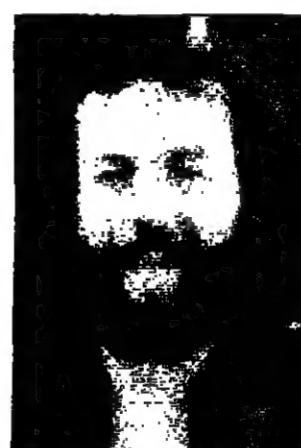
tax.

Mr Benham, 29, had been

jailed for 30 days by magis-

trates at Poole, Dorset,

for failing to pay his £355 poll tax bill. He argued that he mostly



Benham: jailed for not paying poll tax

lived in a car or a tent as part of an alternative way of life and was not liable to pay.

The magistrates ruled that

Mr Benham's failure to pay amounted to "culpable neg-
lect" as, with nine O levels, he clearly had earning ability.

He was jailed after 11 days in jail, however, and a High Court appeal subsequently declared that the magistrates had acted unreasonably.

Mr Benham lost his claim for compensation yesterday. The court's rejection of that claim may have saved the Government another huge sum when about 20 other poll tax cases reach the court.

Mr Benham had worked in a bank after leaving school but gave up the job to try to live without an income. He objected when he was landed with a full poll tax bill despite spending less than 30 days in his parents' house in the course of a year. The rest of the time, he lived in a car and a tent.

The Strasbourg judges said that the magistrates who had jailed Mr Benham could have done so only if they decided that his failure to pay the poll tax was due to his "wilful refusal" or "culpable neglect". The fact that the High Court later found there was insufficient evidence to blame Mr Benham for his inability to pay did not necessarily mean it had been unlawful to jail him.

The judges did not agree that the magistrates had made a grave error and therefore did not find that the prison sentence against Mr Benham was invalid.

But, on the question of legal aid, they considered that "where deprivation of liberty was at stake, the interests of justice in principle call for legal representation".

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3.05%

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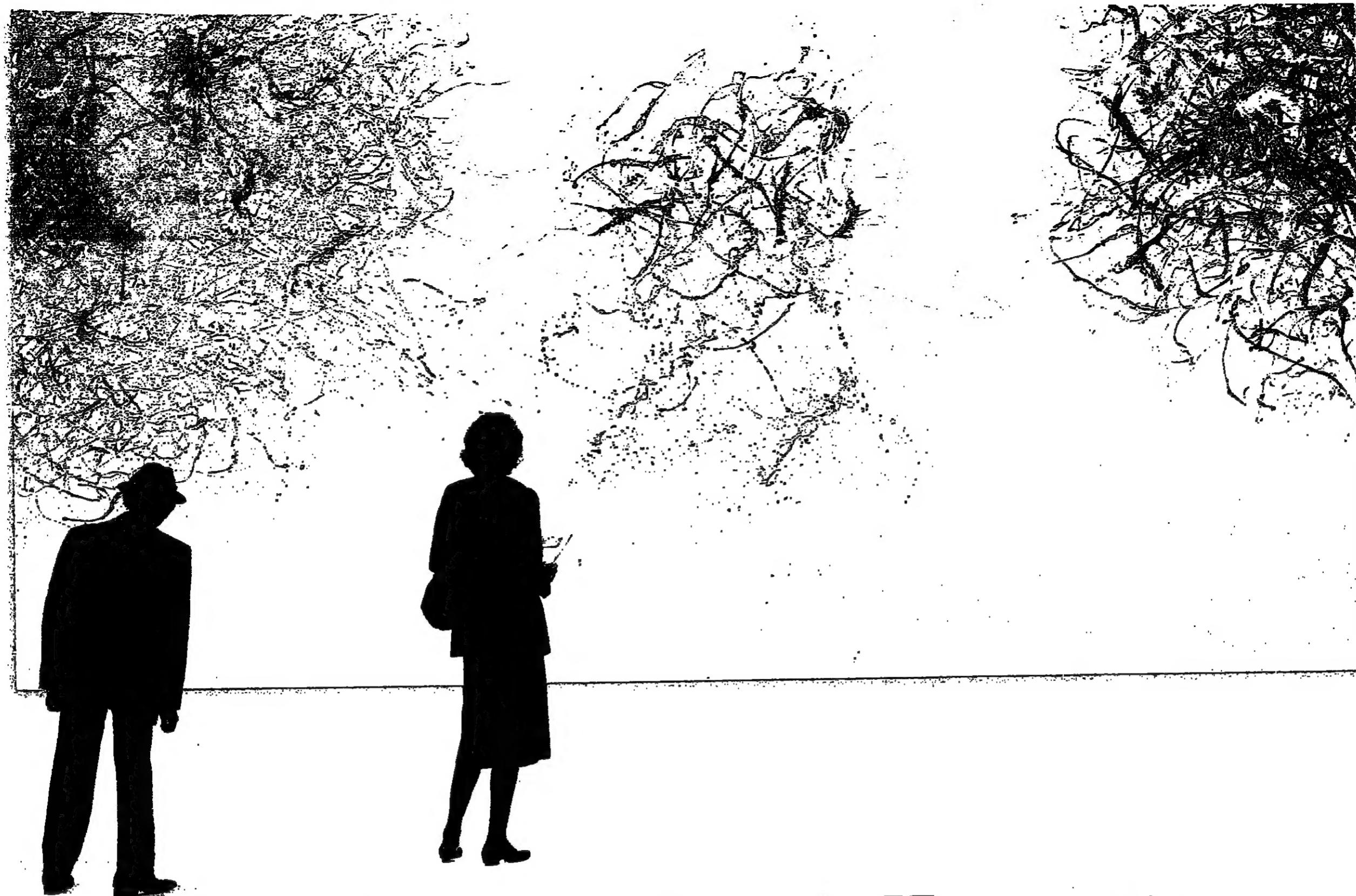
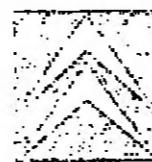
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JUNE 1ST - AUGUST 31ST

RAF seeks bomb to destroy tanks but keep the peace

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

RAF chiefs are considering developing a special peace-keeping bomb that could be used in an operation "short of war" to knock out a tank without harming nearby civilians.

One idea is to have a laser-guided bomb that could be launched without an explosive warhead to send a signal rather than cause death and destruction. Another is to have a bomb that can be switched off after launch.

The "peace-support bomb" is one of a number of concepts devised by the RAF's operational requirements department. RAF chiefs believe there is a gap in the weapons inventory which has been highlighted by the experience of Nato pilots flying bombing missions over Bosnia-Herzegovina.

One senior RAF official said yesterday that the aim of the peace-support bomb would be to inflict "zero collateral damage". One of the challenges

facing Nato pilots was to avoid causing damage to property or deaths among civilians when attacking tanks, armoured personnel carriers or a radar installation, especially in near urban areas.

The RAF official said: "If you have a tank firing from a confined space next to a hospital, there is always the risk of collateral damage. So one idea is to have a bomb that will be accurate but will not cause a lot of damage."

Another idea is to have a bomb or missile which will have a switch-off capability, allowing for a change of mind after the weapon has been launched. This would enable Nato or United Nations commanders to disarm a missile in flight when the perceived threat from a warring party suddenly vanished.

The RAF is now in the process of ordering a new range of weapon systems for the next 15 years which take into account the lessons learnt from both Bosnia and the Gulf War of 1991.

The main lesson was the imperative of developing "smart" precision-guided missiles to replace the inventory of "dumb" (unguided) bombs because of the need to restrict collateral damage.

After the Gulf War, the RAF decided to buy a number of new missile systems, including a conventionally armed stand-off missile (Casom) which could be launched at least 100 miles from the target and be capable of penetrating heavily fortified bunkers.

Seven consortiums have put in bids and a decision is expected in the next few weeks. Yesterday McDonnell Douglas, the American defence company, which has teamed up with GEC-Marconi, Hunting Engineering and Lucas Aerospace to offer its Grand Slam missile, announced that it had redesigned the weapon to give it longer range, believed to be 200-300 miles.



A painting depicting Sir Charles, centre, saving the life of his wounded brother Hugh, bottom right. The portrait shows him wearing his medals

Family sells VC won in Indian Mutiny

By JOHN SHAW

A VICTORIA CROSS won by General Sir Charles Gough for four separate acts of bravery during the Indian Mutiny in 1857-58 is expected to sell for about £38,000 at auction next month.

The Gough family is unique in that three of its members were awarded VCs,

Sir Charles, his son and his younger brother. The group of six decorations — Sir Charles's VC and his campaign medals — is being sold by a branch of the family at Spink, the specialist medal auctioneers in St James's, central London, on July 16.

The Goughs, from Connell, Co Tipperary, were among those families who brought a

vigorous Irish spirit to the British Army. Sir Charles was 16 when he first went out to India. Field Marshal Viscount Gough, his great uncle, was Commander-in-Chief.

The teenager was commissioned cornet in the 8th Bengal Cavalry. He took part in the Punjab Campaign of 1848-49 and on the outbreak of the Mutiny his unit was directed

to join the main army for the advance on Delhi.

All four incidents were in the Delhi, Lucknow and Cawnpore area. The first, according to the citation in the London Gazette, was for "gallantry in an affair at Khurkowallah near Rohilkund on August 15, 1857".

Sir Charles saved his brother, who was wounded and on the ground. A painting recording the incident hangs in the National Army Museum in Chelsea. Three days later he led a charge of the Guide Cavalry "and cut down two of the enemy's sowars [native cavalrymen] with one of whom he had a desperate hand-to-hand combat".

In another charge five

months later, he pierced one of the enemy's leaders with a sword thrust so that the

weapon "was carried out of his hand in the mêlée. He defended himself with a revolver and shot two of the enemy". In the fourth incident, Sir Charles saved Brevet Major O.H. St. George Anson and killed his opponent, "immediately cutting down another of the enemy in the same gallant manner".

Sir Charles and his brother Hugh became recognised as two of the most brilliant of the younger generation of cavalry leaders. Lieutenant Hugh Gough won a VC during the Mutiny and Sir Charles's son, Captain Brevet Major J.E. Gough, won a similar honour in Somaliland in 1903.

John Hayward, a medals consultant at Spink, a part of Christie's, said: "We expect an enormous amount of interest."

Broker accused of Gulf War fraud

By A STAFF REPORTER

A SHIPPING broker tricked the Ministry of Defence out of a fortune after he was asked to help Britain's Gulf War effort, a court was told yesterday.

William Layzell-Smith allegedly hid the true cost of hiring a ferry to take supplies to the Gulf. Then, after the allied victory, the 38-year-old company director repeated the fraud a further three times as equipment was ferried back to Britain.

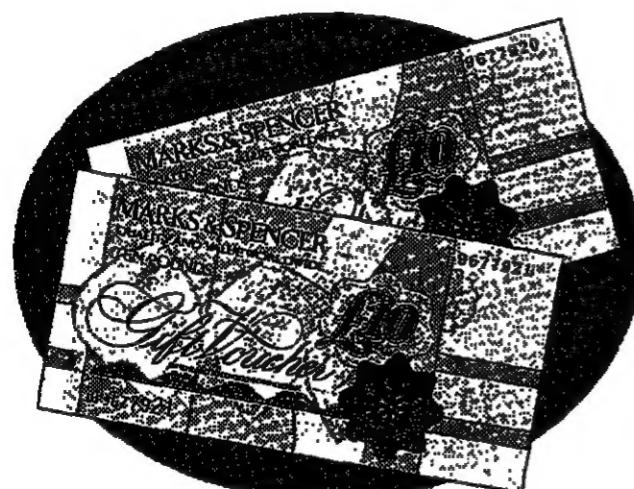
By the end of the eight-month swindle, his firm and a Danish businessman had pocketed £1.75 million of taxpayers' money. Southwark Crown Court was told. Layzell-Smith, of Woodford, east London, later told police: "There's nothing wrong in making a profit." He denies one charge of fraudulent trading between November 1990 and July 1991.

Michael Worsley, QC, for the prosecution, said the Government contacted shipping agents through the Baltic Exchange for help to charter large roll-on, roll-off vessels to transport some of the equipment needed to help to defeat President Saddam Hussein. Layzell-Smith, director of J.G. and Sons (London), and Jorgen Odsgaard, who ran a one-man operation from Holland, were among those asked to find the necessary ships and negotiate with their owners.

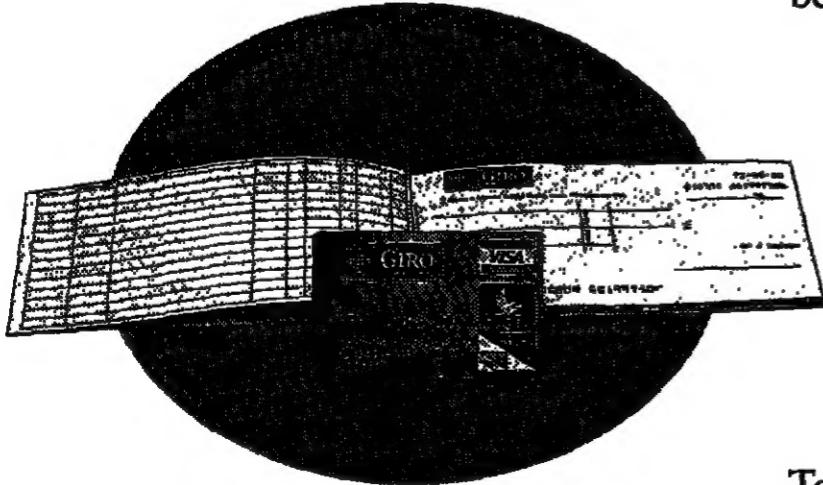
Mr Worsley said that on four occasions Mr Layzell-Smith and Mr Odsgaard pretended to act as middlemen, earning nothing more than the usual commission from shipping lines. But the vessels were hired from the operators for much less than the "enormous sum" the Ministry of Defence handed over.

Interviewed by police, Mr Layzell-Smith insisted he had done nothing wrong. The trial continues.

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Boasts of miracle health foods put to test

By ROBIN YOUNG

DIETING can damage your health, according to this month's issue of *Health Which?*, published today.

The Consumers Association publication says that there is no evidence for claims that special foods and supplements can increase brain power, but adds that the psychological stress and mental pre-occupation involved in weight-watching can cause poorer performance in memory tests, make reactions slower and shorten attention spans.

Only children with abnormal deficiencies in vitamins and minerals would benefit from vitamin supplements, the magazine says, and claims that individual foods, supplements and diets will increase brain power are dismissed as "at best exaggeration, and at worst wishful thinking".

"Plain old caffeine" is the "magic" ingredient in guarana, the Amazonian wonder-treatment promoted as a natural stimulant. *Health Which?* says, Spirulina, a blue-green algae, is claimed to be a source of amino acids that enhance brain activity but the magazine says the same can be got from any protein food.

Fish is a healthy food but it will not make adults brighter, though a fat found in fish oil (DHA) may be linked with brain development in infancy.

The magazine suggests that the two nutrients strongly linked to brain function are Vitamin B1 (thiamine), deficiency of which can lower mental capacity, and iron, which is crucial while the brain develops in infancy.

Spinach, kidney beans and wholemeal bread are suggested as sources of iron, Brazil nuts, brown rice and wholemeal pasta of vitamin B1.

In a survey on orange juice *Health Which?* found that long-life varieties had significantly less vitamin C than juices home-squeezed, "freshly squeezed", or squeezed in Florida, while home-made juices contained much less sugar than shop-bought varieties.

Despite their healthy image, fruit juices were more acidic than other soft drinks and could cause dental erosion.

Litigious tourists force up cost of package holidays

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE travel industry is facing a huge rise in claims for compensation as holidaymakers pursue increasingly far-fetched legal actions.

In a trend that will force up the cost of package holidays, tour operators are starting to feel the impact of a change in the law brought about by an EC directive on package holidays in 1991. The European directive makes them liable for every part of a holiday, from excursions to illness, and not just the travel and accommodation arrangements.

Claims are estimated to be up by 50 per cent since 1992. People are suing over any mishap, such as falling out of a safari vehicle or the failure of a tour operator to warn them that an area was dangerous.

Tim Oliver, partner with the City solicitors Berrymans, which acts for Thomson, the biggest tour operator, said: "The rise in claims has been phenomenal. Partly it's that people are more aware of their rights. But also it's that tour operators can now be held responsible for every part of the holiday — from the fixture tiles at a hotel which someone slips on, to an injury someone incurs on an excursion."

Before the EC directive people had to pursue claims

CAUSES FOR COMPLAINT	
Type of complaint	1994 1995
Accident	122 141
Accommodation overbooked	457 239
Disability/special needs	29 38
Flight overbooked/delayed	185 258
Food	30 41
General dissatisfaction	9,703 11,361
Illness	138 182
Insurance query/problem	76 109
Poor apartment/hotel	3,024 2,870
Poor rep/courier	38 37
Pre-departure change (flight, hotel)	541 614
Square deal/last-minute holiday	587 472

The total of written complaints to Abta rose from 14,931 in 1994 to 17,450 in 1995, a rise of nearly 17 per cent.

against the hotel or local excursion organiser. "Now, provided they can show the tour operator has been negligent, they can sue in this country. And very often they can get legal aid to do so."

He said that when acting for Inntaus before it ceased trading, there might be "perhaps five claims a year that went to litigation. Now, with Thomson, there are some 50 to 75 a year going to litigation."

Another factor was that the insurance offered with many holidays increasingly contained legal expenses insurance. "So if, for some reason, a claim can't be brought against the tour operator, because the claim arose away from the hotel when the holidaymaker went off on his own, you might

still go to your legal expenses insurer and they will arrange for you to claim."

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Another factor was that the insurance offered with many holidays increasingly contained legal expenses insurance. "So if, for some reason, a claim can't be brought against the tour operator, because the claim arose away from the hotel when the holidaymaker went off on his own, you might

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SECOND-HAND TOBACCO SMOKE IN PERSPECTIVE

Life is full of risks.

But they're not all equal.

Almost every day, it seems that one thing or another has been discovered to be some kind of health risk.

In one scientific study, even the ordinary biscuit was linked to heart disease.

But as common sense suggests (and scientists confirm) not everything described statistically as a risk is a meaningful risk.

For example, lots of people have been persuaded that second-hand tobacco smoke is harmful.

Not surprising, perhaps.

After all, we recognise that smoking itself is a risk factor for certain human diseases and that some people find second-hand tobacco smoke unappealing and unpleasant.

But what about second-hand tobacco smoke? Is it really a meaningful health risk to people who've chosen not to smoke?

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The United States Environmental Protection Agency recently conducted a major review of studies on the risks of second-hand tobacco smoke to non-smokers. These studies typically involve non-smokers living with smokers over a long period, such as 20 years.



And this review put the risk of lung cancer from second-hand tobacco smoke at a level well below the risk reported by other studies for many everyday items and activities.

And below, in fact, the risk to health that one other study reported for eating one biscuit a day.

As the table below shows, many everyday activities have been statistically associated at one time or another with apparent risks to health.

But reputable scientists say that weak associations aren't necessarily meaningful.

So there's no big campaign to persuade you to give up your daily biscuit.

Nor is there any sound justification for a campaign against second-hand tobacco smoke.

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We'll send you the evidence about second-hand smoke.

We believe you'll find the case convincing.

Associated with
second-hand
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Everyday Activities	Reported Relative Risk*	Reported Health Effect	Scientific Study Reference
Diet highest in saturated fat	6.14	Lung cancer	Journal of the National Cancer Institute, Vol. 85, p.1906 (1993)
Non-vegetarian v vegetarian diet	3.08	Heart disease	American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, Vol. 31, p. S191 (1978)
Frequently cooking with rapeseed oil	2.80	Lung cancer	International Journal of Cancer, Vol. 40, p. 604 (1987)
Drinking 1-2 glasses of whole milk per day	1.62	Lung cancer	International Journal of Cancer, Vol. 43, p. 608 (1989)
Eating one biscuit a day	1.49	Heart disease	Lancet, Vol. 341, p. 581 (1993)
Drinking chlorinated water	1.38	Rectal cancer	American Journal of Public Health, Vol. 82, p. 955 (1992)
Eating pepper frequently	1.30	Mortality	American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 119, p. 775 (1984)
Exposure to second-hand tobacco smoke	1.19	Lung cancer	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (1992)
High vegetable diet	0.37	Lung cancer	International Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 25, Suppl. 1, p. 32 (1996)
High fruit diet	0.31	Lung cancer	American Journal of Epidemiology, Vol. 133, p. 683 (1991)

*Relative risk measures how much consuming, or being exposed to something, raises or lowers risk.

Philip Morris Europe S.A.

Second-hand tobacco smoke. Let's keep a sense of perspective.

Yeltsin strikes chord with the young at Red Square concert

FROM BRONWYN DONNIE IN MOSCOW

A WALL of loud-speakers boomed "Vote Next Sunday" as about 30,000 youngsters rocked at a pop concert sponsored by President Yeltsin's election campaign aimed at appealing to the youth vote.

The crowd in Red Square, many wearing T-shirts reading "Yeltsin Number One", responded to the appeal with cheers and whistles. The 65-year-old Kremlin leader may not look like a pop icon, but with less than a week to go before the presidential election, he is emerging as the most popular candidate among young people.

Masha, 20, a student of English literature at Moscow State University, was typical of many at the event. "I don't particularly like Yeltsin," she said. "He's made a lot of mistakes. No-one can forgive him for [the war in] Chechnya. But who else is there? She added: "God knows what would happen if the Communists



television programme tries to give the election a shade of street-credibility by featuring Dina, a hip, young presenter, interviewing teenage pop stars and club-goers about why they are going to vote for Mr Yeltsin. His re-election campaign has also exploited the violence and repressive nature of Communist rule, showing graphic footage of Bolshevik-era executions and revolutionary mobs pulling down churches.

The campaigns of the other candidates have been unable to match the Kremlin's pursuit of the youth vote, including that of Grigori Yavlinsky, the young and charismatic liberal leader whose Yabloko party clinched most of the youth vote in last December's parliamentary polls.

The Communists have abandoned any hope of winning over the young. "Our manifesto is enough on its own. We do not need to waste



President Yeltsin dons a local hat at a festival in Arsk, nearly 40 miles from the Tatar capital Kazan, as he continued his hectic campaigning across Russia

nists get in. Who's to say they won't start building gulags again?" Yuri, 19, a conscript just back from the conflict in Chechnya and on military duty in Red Square, said: "I'm voting for demobilisation. Yeltsin. Let him finish what he started."

Their endorsements were in large part the result of an intense pro-Yeltsin campaign, styled as "Vote or Lose", which has attempted to sway the youth vote by instilling a mixture of fun and fear. A daily, prime-time pop-music

money on American-style electioneering," said Irina Niyudovaya, 27, the deputy leader of Komsomol, the Communist Youth League which once boasted millions of members. Now, the organisation has shrunk to 15,000 supporters and seems destined to remain in obscurity, judging by its dismal attempt to entice young people to a weekend cultural concert in

Moscow. More than three hours of speeches, poetry recitals and folk singing was insufficient to attract Russian youth, who appeared to be outnumbered 10-1 by pensioners in the audience.

Despite the battle for the youth vote, it will be the elderly who may yet have the last word in the election. Young voters, who account for only 13 per cent of the electorate, are notoriously less reliable than their grandparents about voting.

"Young people are very indifferent. They go to the concerts but they are not that interested in politics," said Vladimir Kovalevsky, a journalist on the daily *Moskovsky Komsomolets* newspaper. It reported that only 40 per cent of young people voted in last December's polls. He asked:

"If we don't vote now, who's to say when we'll get another chance?"

Back at the Red Square concert, his fears appeared to be well justified as the pro-Yeltsin message was drowned out by the music. "I'm here to watch Akademia play," admitted Natasha, 19, an art student, straining over the heads of the crowd to catch a glimpse of the rock band. "I

don't really know who I'm going to vote for," she said. □ Ten candidates: A hardline presidential candidate, Aman Tuleyev, pulled out of the race yesterday and threw his support behind Gennadi Zyuganov, the main Communist contender. "The bloc of popular-patriotic forces must have one candidate," he said. His withdrawal leaves ten candidates on the ballot. (AP)

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Greece hardens stance on Aegean

FROM JOHN CARR
IN ATHENS

GREECE toughened its stand towards Turkey yesterday, accusing Ankara of fabricating new tensions between the two countries and warning of possible military retaliation.

Costas Simitis, the Prime Minister, appeared on national television after meeting the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Defence, and senior military and intelligence officials, to deliver his strongest warning in six months of verbal duelling over Greek sovereignty in the Aegean.

"Turkey is constantly fabricating new tensions in a strategy that can only lead to deadlock," Mr Simitis said. "We are determined to resist this by all means possible, and our armed forces are at full readiness."

It was unclear how much of his bellicosity was motivated by politics. Later this month Mr Simitis faces a crucial election in his own Socialist Party, of which he hopes to become the formal head. Opposing him is a powerful populist faction which blames him for weakness towards Turkey, the traditional foe.

Last week Greek public anger flared when Ankara claimed that Gavdhos, a small island south of Crete, was "disputed territory". Home to about 100 fishermen, Gavdhos is hundreds of miles from the nearest Turkish land.

Most Greek analysts remain convinced that Turkey could be intending to roll back Greece's sovereignty in the island-studded Aegean. Turkish diplomats readily admit that Turks feel hemmed in by the string of large ethnically-Greek islands hugging the Turkish west coast.

Independent sources say the Turkish military could be trying to seize foreign initiatives as the political establishment is preoccupied with finding a new prime minister.

□ Weapons decision: Greece said it would take a decision soon on ordering new weapons and would continue to block European Union funds for Ankara. Official sources said the weapons would include fighter aircraft. (Reuters)

Man dies in soup poisoning

BUDAPEST: An 80-year-old man became the first to die in Hungary's worst food poisoning outbreak which has made 4,000 people ill, nearly 500 of whom needed hospital treatment. They all ate cold strawberry soup delivered to pensioners' homes, work places, schools and kindergartens, and suffered high fever, diarrhoea and vomiting.

The director of a children's hospital said many children are still in a serious but not critical condition because of dehydration. (AP)

Basque leader wins bail

MADRID: Jon Idigoras, a Basque leader and Spanish parliamentary deputy, was freed on bail after being held for four months, suspected of being involved with an armed group. Two other members of Herri Batasuna, the Basque wing, were arrested over their claims that riot police killed a woman with a rubber bullet. (AP)

Saint restored

VALLETTA: The Beheading of St John by Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio has left Malta for restoration in Florence. The painting is Caravaggio's largest canvas and the only known work he signed — in the blood from St John's neck. (Reuters)

Princess to wed

BUCHAREST: Princess Margaret, the eldest daughter of exiled King Michael of Romania, is to marry a Romanian actor. The princess, who was born in Switzerland where the royal family now lives, will marry Radu Duda in Lausanne in September. (AP)

Royal change

MADRID: Simona Gómez Acebo y Borbón, the niece of King Juan Carlos, made advertising history as the first member of the Spanish royal family to appear in a commercial. She was promoting a new nappy, and will give her earnings to charity.

Europe sees growth in sex-slave trade

FROM REUTER IN VIENNA

A HARROWING tale of a Polish mother of four, forced into prostitution in Germany after failing for promises of a good life in the West, was told at a conference yesterday.

Anita Gradić, European Justice Commissioner, said the unemployed woman, 30, was told by a businessman he could get her well-paid work as a waitress. Instead she was raped and blackmailed.

The Commissioner, who was chairing the European Commission's two-day conference on trafficking in women, said the woman was an example of a growing slave trade in Europe and represented thousands in a similar situation. "No country is completely free of trade in women... They are driven away by poor condi-

tions in their home country and forced into a deplorable life."

The European Union estimates that there are between 200,000 and 500,000 women living outside their countries as prostitutes, mostly victims of gangs. In many countries foreign prostitutes far outnumber their national counterparts.

Ms Gradić, who said trafficking in women had surged over the past five years, called for tougher penalties and said trafficking in women was less risky than smuggling drugs.

Representatives from 15 EU governments were participating, with delegates from EU aspirants in Eastern Europe, Cyprus, Malta, America, Canada and the United Nations.

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Olivetti chief fails in bid to overturn fraud conviction

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN ROME

CARLO DE BENEDETTI, chairman of Olivetti and one of Italy's best known buccaneering business tycoons, was yesterday sentenced to four-and-a-half years in prison by the Court of Appeal for his part in the collapse of Banco Ambrosiano 14 years ago.

Fifteen others were also convicted, including Licio Gelli, grandmaster of the shadowy P2 masonic lodge, which allegedly lay behind many establishment scandals before being uncovered in 1981. Gelli was sentenced to 12 years in jail.

De Benedetti, like other leading businessmen, was caught up in anti-corruption investigations launched in 1992 by Milan magistrates and dubbed the *Clean Hands (Mani Pulite)* campaign. As it gathered pace, he went to the magistrates before they came to him, admitting voluntarily that his company had paid bribes to secure contracts and



De Benedetti involved in Ambrosiano scandal

had illicitly financed the discredited Christian Democrats, all but wiped out by the 1992 upheaval. He presented himself as a victim of extortion, obliged by the system to pay bribes to stay in business.

Several of these alleged bribes are still being investigated. But De Benedetti was convicted in 1992 on one count

— complicity in the Banco Ambrosiano scandal — and given a sentence of six years and four months. The Appeal Court reduced the sentence but upheld the conviction. His lawyers said he would appeal to the supreme court.

De Benedetti has been haunted for years by the fall of the Banco Ambrosiano, of which he was vice-president for three months, stepping down in January 1982. The bank, run by Mafia financiers with Vatican connections, collapsed with huge debts to "shell" companies set up in Panama and Liechtenstein.

De Benedetti left the bank's board six months before it folded, and claims not to have benefited from its dealings. Before leaving he sold his shares in the bank to its chairman, Roberto Calvi, who was found hanging under Blackfriars Bridge in June 1982. His death has never been satisfactorily explained.

Unicef attacks silent conspiracy on childbirth toll

BY MICHAEL BINYON, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A QUARTER of all women in the developing world die or are disabled by pregnancy and childbirth, according to a United Nations report.

Almost 600,000 women are killed each year by complications related to pregnancy and childbirth, about 20 per cent more than previously estimated. Unicef, the United Nations Children's Fund, says that for every woman who dies, about 30 more suffer injuries and disabilities.

Millions of women suffer rupture of the uterus, pelvic inflammatory disease, and lower genital tract injuries. Their injuries go untreated, the report says. "They are painful, humiliating and permanent. This issue, in its conspiracy of silence, is the most neglected tragedy of our times."

The risk of death during childbirth is dramatically worse in the developing world. In Britain only one woman in 5,000 dies, whereas in some of the poorest countries it is one in seven.

Almost 75,000 deaths in the developing world are caused by women attempting unsafe abortions — by drugs or violent misuse or by inserting a sharp object through the

vagina into the uterus. Unicef says that 50,000 women and girls attempted such procedures every day.

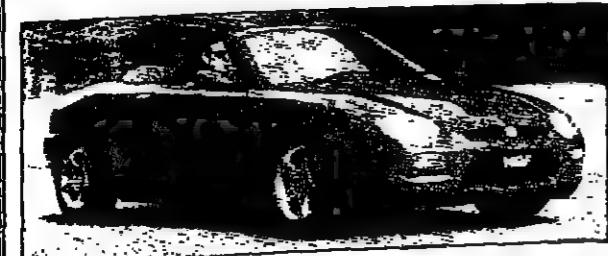
Unicef says that if the toll of maternal death and injury is to be reduced, the first task is to break the silence surrounding the issue. "Families and communities must be taught to recognise the danger signs. Governments and aid programmes must be given priority to ensure that local hospitals and clinics can provide modern obstetrics care to the 15 per cent of pregnant women who need it." Little is done because the problems are considered "women's problems".

The maternal death toll is highest in the Asia-Pacific region at 818 deaths per day, with Sub-Saharan Africa following at 615 deaths daily.

Unicef says that in the public imagination Africa is the home of the malnourished child. In fact, both the number and percentage of children affected by malnutrition is far higher in South Asia, with half of all the world's malnourished children in just three Asian countries — India, Pakistan and Bangladesh where 67 per cent of children under five are malnourished.

AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES COMPETITION

Win an MGF worth £17,000



Today *The Times* gives you the chance to win the exciting new MGF. Simply collect six differently numbered tokens and complete the entry form published on Saturday.

The MGF 1.8i, worth £17,000, has one of the most advanced production engines in the world. Unlike its predecessors, it has a mid-engined, rear wheel drive layout giving it excellent grip under acceleration. Although the look is modern, the design of the grille reflects the MG's sporty heritage. Tradition is also reflected in the ivory-coloured dials of the instrument panel. Other features include a 20-watt channel electronic stereo system, Radio Data System for traffic information and generous luggage space.

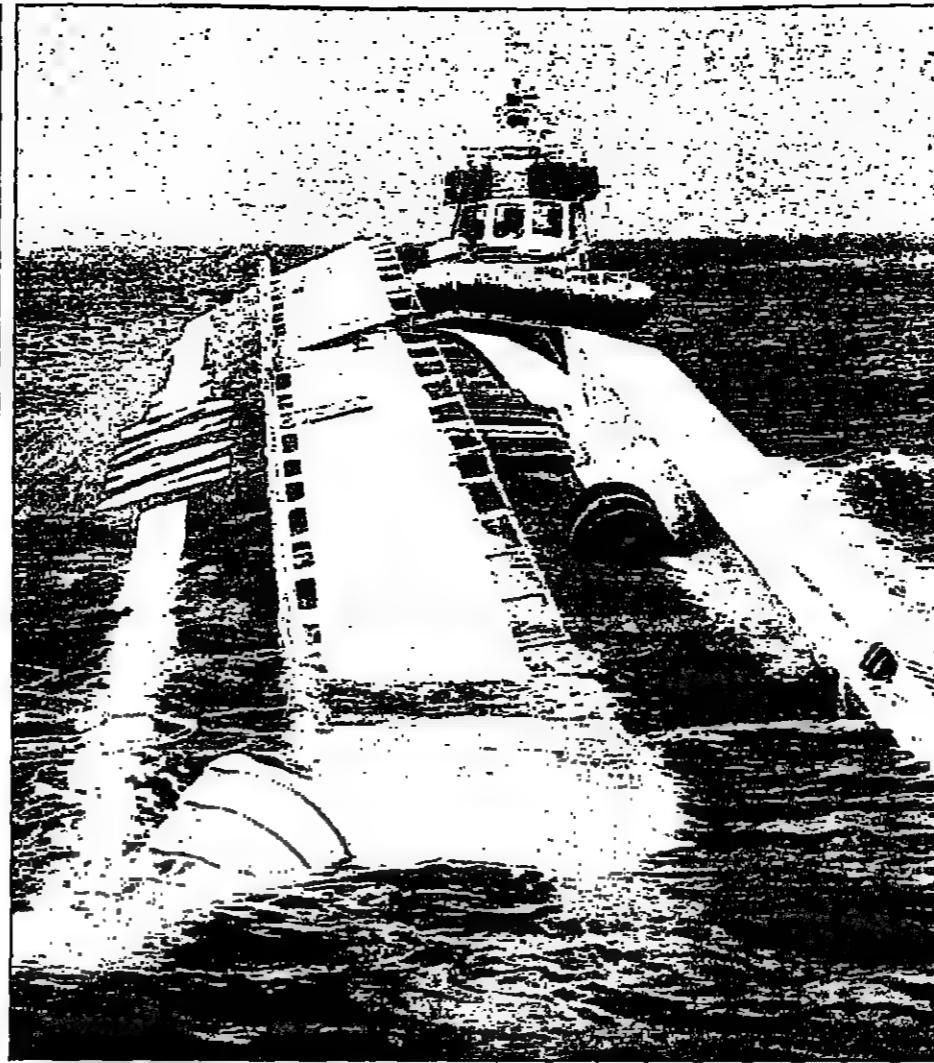


HOW TO ENTER

For your chance to win the MGF 1.8i collect six differently numbered tokens from those appearing daily in *The Times* until Saturday, June 15, 1996. (You may enter twice if you wish.) Send them with the completed entry form which appeared on Saturday to: *The Times* MG Prize Draw Competition, PO Box 8385, London, SE7 7ZL.

PRIZE DRAW CONDITIONS

The prize draw is open to all *The Times* readers over 18. The winner will be chosen at random from all entries received before the closing date of June 21, 1996. The prize is not transferable. There is no cash alternative. *The Times* Newspaper



A rescue vessel advancing towards the capsized hydrofoil which was ferrying commuters from the island of Procida when it struck rocks early yesterday

Four die as ferry hits rocks in fog off Naples

BY RICHARD OWEN

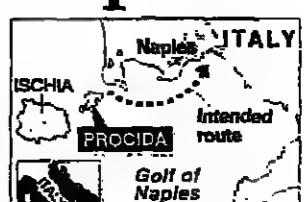
SAFETY experts yesterday began an investigation into the sinking of a hydrofoil packed with early morning commuters just off the island of Procida, near Naples.

Four elderly Italians died and scores were injured, some seriously, when the hydrofoil hit rocks at the mouth of the island harbour in fog. Survivors spoke of "moments of sheer terror" as the boat crashed and capsized.

The crew had said the evacuation had been orderly, with most passengers managing to don life jackets before swimming to shore or being picked up by fishing craft which came to the rescue.

The accident has aroused anxiety among the numerous tourists who take similar hydrofoils to and from the more popular islands and coastal resorts of Naples Bay.

Although the weather was hot and the skies were clear, morning fog had not lifted when the hydrofoil left Procida for Naples just before 9 am. It was carrying 160 passengers, mostly workers in



the Naples tourist industry who commute from Procida regularly, and 15 crew plus a handful of students and tourists.

Unlike islands such as Ischia and Capri near by, Procida is a small volcanic rock formation with few tourist attractions of its own.

As divers continued to search the shallow waters around the harbour for further victims, the authorities said the hydrofoil had been picking up speed as it moved out of Procida harbour, and smashed against the rocks at full tilt.

The Italians who died — three women and a man, all in their sixties and seventies — were at the front of the vessel, which took the full force of the impact.



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DON'T DREAM IT. DRIVE IT.

Hezbollah ambush kills 5 Israelis

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER
IN JERUSALEM

ISRAEL'S Likud Government, still to be formed after the recent elections, faced its first security crisis yesterday after five Israeli soldiers were killed in an ambush in occupied southern Lebanon by the Iranian-backed Hezbollah.

News of the attack, the most serious in the region since the end of Operation Grapes of Wrath, came as Israelis were mourning the death of two Jews killed on Sunday by Arab gunmen inside the borders of Israel proper, about 20 miles from Jerusalem, as they returned home to the settlement of Kiryat Arba overlooking Hebron. Twenty bullets hit their car.

The grim reminder of the unfinished war in Lebanon shocked many Israelis, falsely lulled into a new sense of security by the election result. It was followed by heavy Israeli artillery retaliation which killed a Lebanese soldier and injured a civilian, prompting charges from Hezbollah that the ceasefire had been breached.

According to the deal secured by Warren Christopher, the American Secretary of State, only attacks against civilian targets are prohibited by the single-page ceasefire document. Hezbollah sources said that it was considering whether the alleged Israeli breach — firing into villages north of the security zone — would prompt new Katyusha rocket attacks on the Galilee.

The ferocity of the Hezbollah attack, mounted at 5.30am as an Israeli night patrol was returning to base near the ruin of Beaufort



Israeli army medical personnel rush a soldier wounded in the Hezbollah attack to a helicopter at an air force base near the Lebanese border yesterday

Castle, brought to 16 the number of Israeli soldiers killed in southern Lebanon this year.

The outgoing Prime Minister, Shimon Peres, who was criticised by Binyamin Netanyahu, his successor, for ending the onslaught prematurely, yesterday visited the north and spoke to army commanders. Sources said that they pressed home the

argument for harsher retaliation against Hezbollah targets.

Yesterday's attack underlined the vulnerability of Israeli soldiers inside the nine-mile wide self-declared security zone, which Israel has held since its troops pulled back from Lebanon in 1985. Many senior figures in Mr Netanyahu's Likud party argued that any ceasefire in

April should have included an end to attacks on Israeli troops in the security zone, but this was rejected by Syria. Israel Radio admitted in its account that virtually every member of the ambushed Israeli patrol had been killed or wounded. Some of the wounded were evacuated by military helicopters.

One survivor described the chaos at the scene, saying that

the soldiers did not know what hit them and describing the cries of the dying. A Hezbollah statement released in Beirut said: "A group of fighters ambushed a Zionist patrol consisting of more than 10 soldiers. The fighters hit them with machinegun fire and rocket-propelled grenades and clashed with them until all fell to the ground, dead or wounded."

Western military experts said the high death and injury toll among the Israelis had dramatically underlined the failure of Operation Grapes of Wrath to damage Hezbollah's military infrastructure. Much of its weaponry is ferried in by Syrian connivance and its hit-and-run fighters often travel by motor scooter.

Mr Netanyahu will not take control until he has presented his new Government to the Knesset for a vote of confidence, a move he is planning by June 17 if coalition negotiations continue smoothly. But his imminent responsibility was signalled by unscheduled talks he held with Mr Peres last night.

Meanwhile settlers in Kiryat Arba are expected to use the attack to step up pressure on Mr Netanyahu to delay the Hebron withdrawal, originally scheduled on the previous Labour timetable to take place tomorrow.

Likud's response could spell end of peace process

By CHRISTOPHER WALKER

COMMENTARY

THE killing of two Jewish settlers inside Israel and at least five Israeli soldiers in occupied southern Lebanon in less than 24 hours poses a severe first test for Prime Minister-elect Binyamin Netanyahu, who narrowly won power by promising Jews "peace with security".

Although the former commando has yet to complete his right-wing Likud-led coalition, the resurgence in violence — the dominant issue in last month's election campaign — has ensured that the subject will overshadow the first days of his nationalist religious Government.

The security crisis has jolted Israelis, who have been enjoying a lull from terrorist attacks. Its urgency was underlined by reports that Mr Netanyahu was to meet Shimon Peres, the outgoing Prime Minister, to discuss Israel's response.

Arab and Palestinian leaders have said that any hawkish act by the new Government is likely to result in more raids by militant groups.

Likud also has to worry about the consequences of a total collapse of the 1993 Middle East peace process, which could result in the Palestine Liberation Organisation reverting to a violent campaign.

Rehav Abu Medeen, the Palestine Authority's Justice Minister, said in a response to the shooting of the two settlers: "Now expect the unexpected. Maybe there will be a new round of violence. Who knows? If there is no real achievement in the peace process, if Mr Netanyahu and his Government turn their back on the peace process, expect more violence."

The main fear of Western nations is that the expected tougher response by Mr Netanyahu will only succeed in tilting the Hebron withdrawal, originally scheduled on the previous Labour timetable to take place tomorrow.



Netanyahu: promised "peace with security"

AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES COMPETITION

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When you have something to celebrate you drink champagne, and today *The Times* is offering readers the chance to win 12 magnums of Moët & Chandon every month for a year. The occasion is to celebrate our sensational summer of sport. We are now hosting the most important sporting event in the UK for thirty years — Euro 96.

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This is the first of a series of competitions we will be introducing over the next few weeks to celebrate our summer of sport and your entry has to be in by Saturday.



CHAMPAGNE

MOËT & CHANDON

Senate prepares for a new era as Dole bows out

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

BOB DOLE today ends a remarkable 35-year congressional career that began the same snowy January that Dwight Eisenhower left the Oval Office.

As the Republican presidential nominee autographed hundreds of photographs for which he has posed with aides and colleagues over the past few days, his staff yesterday packed up the last of the boxes in his beloved Senate office overlooking Washington's famous Mall and made him a gift of the mahogany desk he has used for a decade.

Republicans were last night throwing a glittering dinner at the Washington Convention Centre to honour the man who has led the party in the Senate for a record 11 years. Mr Dole will today make what is likely to be an emotional farewell speech from the Senate floor and share a final lunch with his Republican colleagues. Even President Clinton was hoping to pay a last courtesy call on the 72-year-old senator as a mark of respect for his distinguished service.

Tomorrow Senate Republi-

cans are to elect a new leader, and Trent Lott is considered almost certain to defeat his fellow Mississippian, Thad Cochran.

Mr Lott, 54, represents a sharp break with the relatively genteel, old-school style of leadership practised by Mr Dole. An aggressive conservative ideologue of the Newt Gingrich school, he prefers confrontation to compromise. Radical conservatives should see their takeover of the Republican Party in the Senate in November when several veteran moderates retire.

Mr Dole has cast an astonishing 12,781 votes during his eight years in the House and 27 in the Senate. He has seen nine Presidents in the Oval Office, and been a leading player during an era of profound change encompassing the civil rights revolution, the Vietnam War and Watergate.

He has championed civil rights legislation, food stamps for the poor, aid for the disabled and deficit reduction, and his overall record is considerably less conservative than his present election-year

rhetoric. Political analysts hailed him as one of America's great legislators and said that while few laws bear his name, little important legislation could have obtained congressional approval over the past decade without his unique ability to broker deals.

It is significant that there is no major piece of legislation known as the Dole Act," said Ross Baker, a political scientist at Rutgers University. "It tells you what kind of leader he's been. His mark can be found on so much, but his influence was extensive, not intensive. He became a kind of legislative virtuoso, a master of the process, not a visionary or high-concept man."

But Mr Dole's strengths as a legislator — his ability to find common ground and engineer compromises — are ill-suited to the demands of modern presidential campaigning where the goal is to exaggerate, not blur ideological differences. It is probably no accident that only two sitting senators — Warren Harding and John Kennedy — have been elected President.

Indeed, Mr Dole is such a poor campaigner that he has conspicuously failed to exploit the renewed national attention he won through last month's bold decision to leave the Senate.

Despite the latest White-water eruptions, Mr Dole still trails Mr Clinton by 15 to 20 points in most polls, and his advisers are trying to improve his performance before the silver-tongued President can overwhelm him on the stump and in debates.

The man who always claimed to be a "doer not a talker", remains transparently uncomfortable on the hustings. One columnist observed that in leaving the Senate, Mr Dole is "giving up something he loves for something he hates to do to try for something he probably can't have".

It remains unclear whether she will be officially credited with completing the crossing, a feat that has defied more



Susie Maroney is treated for dehydration and exhaustion after being pulled from the water as her mother Patricia, left, talks to reporters

Woman claims record after swim from Cuba

FROM DAVID ADAMS
IN MIAMI

AN AUSTRALIAN swimmer claimed a long-distance swimming record yesterday after attempting to cross the 90-mile straits between Cuba and the United States.

Susie Maroney, 21, reached US territorial waters after a 39-hour swim in which she covered more than 80 miles.

But she was hauled out of the water suffering from dehydration and nausea, about ten miles from land.

It remains unclear whether she will be officially credited with completing the crossing, a feat that has defied more

than 50 swimmers. "She couldn't fight the current anymore," said Connie Pignatello, a member of her support team. "She accomplished an amazing feat. She did make it into US waters." Tom Hexel, of the World Marathon Association, was reported later to have verified the 88.5-mile distance and declared it a world record.

Miss Maroney was delighted with her accomplishment.

"As soon as we were in American waters, we said 'That's it,'" she said after being taken by boat and ambulance to a Florida hospital. She discharged herself a few hours later.

then and the energy-sapping currents of the Gulf Stream.

Miss Maroney, who was fed a diet of liquid protein, mashed bananas and yoghurt, said she was unlikely to make another attempt. She said she tried to keep her spirits up, but suffered from depression and cried on several occasions. "I just kind of thought of funny things ... things that kept me happy. I never thought there would be an end."

Swimming part of the way in a shark-proof cage attached to a motor boat, she made good progress after leaving Havana before dawn on Sunday. About 20 miles from

Cuba she discarded the cage because waves caused it to bump against her.

Mrs Pignatello said Miss Maroney's spirits had been boosted by a 40ft whale which followed her part of the way. "She loves dolphins and nature and all that. I guess if you can swim like that you're part of the ocean," she said.

But in the end, the stiff currents and eight-foot waves kicked up by a sudden storm on Saturday night, were too much. When Miss Maroney was hauled out of the water late on Sunday afternoon, she was disoriented and suffering from exhaustion and dehydration.



Abandoning the Senate job he loved has failed to raise Bob Dole above President Clinton in polls

White girl, 13, held after church torched

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

A WHITE teenage girl was arrested yesterday after a church for black people was burnt down in North Carolina.

The arrest came as police questioned two men about another fire at a Texas chapel, the latest in a spate of blazes to strike 30 Southern black congregations in 18 months.

The unidentified girl, described as "deeply troubled", is alleged to have set fire to the wooden sanctuary of Matthews Murrland Presbyterian Church in Charlotte last week, but police said she had no connection with the other attacks. "I feel a deep sense of sorrow that a 13-year-old girl has not only ruined a church but her life," said Larry Hill, the pastor.

The fire at the 93-year-old

sanctuary prompted President Clinton to announce several measures to halt the burnings in Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Virginia, Georgia and North Carolina.

At a meeting with 60 black ministers in Washington yesterday, Robert Rubin, the Treasury Secretary, promised that federal investigators would not rest until the trust of the black community had been returned to the South.

"This Administration will do everything in our power to get to the bottom of these fires," he said. "Few crimes are as sensitive or as important as the torching of our places of worship."

The two men were detained after the New Lighthouse of Prayer Church in Greenville, Texas, was razed yesterday.

The fire at the 93-year-old

US soldier 'opened fire on comrades'

FROM REUTER IN FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA

A US Army sergeant was yesterday accused of being a "cold-blooded murderer" who tried to shoot soldiers as 1,300 gathered at dawn on a Fort Bragg exercise field.

William Kreutzer, 27, a member of a crack paratroop unit and the holder of an army Good Conduct Medal, is charged with murdering a fellow 82nd Airborne soldier — Major Stephen Badger, 30 — with a .22-calibre semi-automatic rifle last October.

The sergeant is said to have hidden among pine trees before grabbing a gun and starting to fire. He was wrestled to the ground by soldiers outside the stadium but Badger was shot and died at the scene.

Sgt Kreutzer tried to plead guilty last month but a military judge ruled that a jury had to hear the charges and determine punishment.

Captain Stephen Stokes, for the defence, said Sgt Kreutzer was troubled and had unsuccessfully sought help from the Army. "Emotionally, Sgt Kreutzer was falling apart. He was coming unglued at the seams and he knew it."

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Hashimoto: pressured
Okinawa challenge

Tokyo: The Governor of Okinawa, boosted by a weekend election victory, met Ryutaro Hashimoto, the Prime Minister, yesterday to lobby against the controversial American bases on the island. Masahide Ota is also due to see William Perry, the US Defence Secretary, next week. (AFP)

Old sailor draws line at gay image of wartime embrace

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

A HOMOSEXUAL reinter-pretation of the VJ-Day photograph of a sailor kissing a girl in New York has displeased the original participants.

A drawing, based on Alfred Eisenstaedt's 1945 classic snapshot, adorns the front cover of this week's *New Yorker* magazine. Instead of a young sailor embracing a Manhattan belle, it shows him in the same amorous pose — but with another mateot.

"I think it's goddam lousy," was the reaction from George Mendonsa, 72, the high-spirited serviceman who was caught by the *Life* magazine photographer in Times Square that day 51 years ago as he celebrated Japan's defeat. The watercolour pastiche by Barry Blitt is called *Don't Ask, in echo of President*

Clinton's policy on homosexuality in the armed forces.

The original snap became an instant success — a single moment, caught on film, which evoked the relief people felt that war was over.

Trudy Leavitt, one of a number of women thought to have been the original girl in the picture (there was much sailor smooching in Times Square that day), said: "I am all for homosexuals having their rights, but they shouldn't have made such fun of such a nice photograph."

Mrs Leavitt, 72, had fond memories of the atmosphere in Times Square on VJ-Day. "I was going to meet my soldier fiance and suddenly this sailor came up to me and bent me backwards," she said yesterday. "He held me so strongly

yet so gently. I was off balance. When he put me back upright I walked away in a huff until a boy on a bicycle came up and said, 'Hey, *Life*, go your photo.'

She went on to marry a man from the Air Corps. "It was very nice to be a girl in those days," she recalled yesterday. "I was engaged to two boys at the same time."

Homosexuals were delighted with the drawing. Benjamin Stip of the Lesbian and Gay Community Services group in Greenwich Village, said: "It celebrates the long history that gays have had in the military. Mr Mendonsa and Mrs Leavitt shouldn't be insulted."

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Anguish in Spain after gunman fires on parade

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN
IN HERREROS DE RUEDA

RIVULETS of blood stain the white walls near the second-floor window from which Jesus Andres Iglesias fell after Civil Guards had shot him dead.

Before being riddled with police bullets on Sunday evening, Iglesias — 40 years old, single and mentally disturbed — had fired more than 30 shots with his double-barrelled hunting rifle at a religious procession passing below his window. The narrow main street in Herrerros de Rueda,

a village of 35 inhabitants near Leon in northwest Spain, afforded few possibilities for escape. Three processioneers — Victorico Martinez, 73, Hermilio Martinez, 72, and Eva Gonzalez, 22 — died on the spot, all shot in the back.

The "Corpus Christi massacre", as Sunday's events have been dubbed, has provoked anguish in Spain. Iglesias has bloodily evoked *Espana negra*, which is present most clearly in the country's long history of rural violence. Modern Spain, for its part, simply does not understand: it can

only grieve. Herreros de Rueda itself has coped with the horror in a way that a larger place might not have done. Everyone is related here and grief is shared by the villagers. Their initial devastation has now given way to intense anger. "Everyone knew the killer was disturbed, loco. But why did the police let him keep his gun? Why was he allowed a licence?" an old woman said.

"It's like that place in Scotland," added another, referring to Dunblane. "Fewer people died here, of course, and thank God no little children were

killed, but this is what happens when you allow just anyone to have a gun."

The killer, had a history of confrontation with the villagers. He was often abusive, they say, always threatening. He was known to fire several rounds from his rifle every night into the trees in the yard behind his house. "We complained several times to the Civil Guard," one villager told me, "but they never did anything. They said that he hadn't hurt anyone."

A young sergeant of the Civil Guard died on Sunday, too, as police confronted the gunman.

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The Family - Day Two: Thomas Stuttaford on parenting; Alice Thomas Ellis on sibling rivalry

Fathers are vital, too

Men need to reclaim their role as equal partners in the family

WHERE have all the fathers gone? Whenever a child dies, whether from violence or disease, the television crew immediately homes in on the victim's mother. It is as if the father's place in the home had been of little importance in the casualty's life and that the death did not cause them to suffer the same grief and anguish. Watch the next press conference after a child's murder, the father may be there, but it is the mother who will describe her loss.

The father's role in the family is not helped by the current denigration of the male in television advertisements, in which he is made to look absurd. Whereas nobody wants a return to the patriarchal despot of the 19th century, the father's opinion is of some importance in determining the dynamics of a family. Arguments as to whether personality traits, good or bad, are inherited or acquired have raged for as long as I have been in medicine. That there is no definitive answer is because it is impossible to disentangle the various strands which together contribute to the formation of an adult character. A kindly, pleasant parent may not only have handed on better genes but will probably also have provided a better home environment; likewise both nature and nurture may have proved detrimental to the development of an adolescent who later becomes a delinquent.

Human beings should never be so conceited that they dismiss the accepted wisdom of stockbreeders, that temperament as well as the physique can be inherited: valid evidence as all the animals in a herd have an identical upbringing. In a household, the environment can be varied to emphasise a child's good points and diminish their bad ones. A survey carried out about 30 years ago in the East End of London

DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

showed that a disproportionate number of policemen and crooks came from the same family background. The inherited characteristics when well disciplined and carefully nurtured produced a constable. When uncontrolled the result could be a villain. When both parents are present in the family, preferably acting in unison, there is a greater likelihood that the child will grow into a well-balanced adolescent, and later, adult. The father, it is hoped a lovable and loving male role model, should, as he does in primitive societies, play just as important a part in the lives of the children as the mother. That fathers should care for their children is a new concept.

The media reflect as well as determine life in modern households. One-parent families are becoming increasingly common despite the ever-increasing wealth of evidence that children are more likely to flourish in a complete household even where there is discord, than if the father is absent.

The demands of modern commercial life are as adept as the divorce courts in producing one-parent families. The middle classes, which have traditionally set such great store by a united family, are now suffering office hours that would have made Victorian mill-owners blush. The aggressive city lifestyle which determines that a man is often at his desk by 7.30am and does not leave the office for 12 hours destroys family life as effectively as infidelity. Little wonder if the city worker exerts little influence on their upbringing, and does not establish a companionable, paternal relationship which makes discipline easy.

Unless the importance of the father in the family can be re-established, the family will become unbalanced, and so, perhaps, will the children's psyche.



Brotherly love: Cain and Abel may be the archetypal rivals but sisters are frequently capable of blowing up minor squabbles into arguments of almost murderous proportions

Jealousy in the blood

Being an only child I have no immediate experience of sibling rivalry. I have been told that my single status makes me something of an incomplete human person, lacking the stimulus that a brother or sister would provide, but I confess I have never had any regrets about it.

When I was a child I found friends quite sufficient and they went home in the evenings, leaving me in pleasant solitude. When I was a very small child and in the company of friends who did have brothers and sisters, I witnessed a number of nasty scenes, always enlivened by yells of "It's not fair". There was frequently a certain amount of physical violence and it was clear that unless there were two or three (depending on the size of the family) of everything — dolls,

cakes, ballet frocks — there was going to be trouble.

Sisters were the worst: the most acquisitive, the most aggressive, and younger sisters were the worst of all, especially when they had no friends of their own. Whether this was by reason of their youth or general unpopularity, they were a terrible trial and I have never understood why it is usually brothers who are presented in myth and literature as deadly rivals. I brought up five sons and a daughter and on the whole the boys got along very well, with shared interests and a common instinct to keep me in the dark about their activities. They seldom fought among themselves, being too busy waging war on civilisation.

Home life, while it could never be described as peaceful, rattled along amiably enough. They developed differently and formed separate groups of friends. It made the house crowded but it left me fairly free, if only to cook and clean and work my fingers to the bone. I'm not complaining.

Meanwhile those of my friends who had given birth to daughters began to wear harassed expressions. I could never understand it since when I encountered their little girls they seemed perfectly sweet. It was explained to me that they weren't always like that and certainly not in the privacy of the home. I thought the mothers were

exaggerating, my own childhood having faded into the rosy mist. No, they insisted. I had no idea of what they went through. Terrible battles blew up over trivial things, especially clothes, and it grew worse as the girls grew older. I could see that this could well be a source of strife.

If someone habitually steals your tights or wears the dress you had laid out for the evening you might well get impatient. And friends, explained this mother. They stole each other's friends and the whole concept of amity disappeared in a whirl of fists

FAMILY LIFE

Personally speaking

WHEN BROTHERS AND SISTERS FIGHT

and feet. One enchanting, blue-eyed, fair-haired little creature assured her dark-haired sister that she had it on an unimpeachable authority that God preferred blondes and the household was in an uproar for weeks. They competed in everything from sums to public speaking and it was only surprising that they hadn't murdered each other. Fortunately they had never fancied the same boys or heaven knows what the consequences would have been.

They were expert at measuring and would sit watching, hawk-like, as the pudding was served, the lemonade poured or the sweets shared out, and should have developed into mathematical geniuses. There were problems about winter coats — a major item of expenditure — since none of them wished to look identical to her

friends.

They described how her sister had earnestly tried to strangle her and had only been prevented by the intervention of their father. This had caused the would-be-thriller to complain that Daddy liked her sister better than her or he wouldn't have interfered.

Somebody inquired of the victim — a tall girl who once rode for England — if she had tried to defend herself and she said that to respond in kind would have been beneath her dignity. When we learnt that her sister had made a second attempt on her life by throwing a brick at her we were not altogether astonished.

It was assumed for a while, as the theories of Freud held

sway, that when the children were discovered fighting over a pair of skates or a Mint Imperial, it was really the yearning for the exclusive affections of Mummy or Daddy that lay at the source of the conflict. I think this doubtful. If we are going to speak in large terms then it is probable that our instincts urge us to seize territory for ourselves, closely followed by useful or pleasing objects. I know few children of either sex who would sit on Mother's lap watching equally as the others staked out bits of garden and ate the strawberries.

But even as I visualise this scene I see the girls getting more concentrated and vicious as the strawberries get smaller and fewer. The boys have already drifted off with their catapults, assuming that someone will have picked their strawberries for them and will serve them up at tea-time. They will certainly be vying in various distressing ways to outdo each other, be the first to bag a song thrush or fall off the highest tree, but they play against a larger background, thus sparing the parents a very great deal. I am open to argument but my experience tells me that girls are more often given to strife over small

matters and are more trouble than boys — except, as a father has just pointed out — when the boys have air rifles and use each other as targets. Even here it is not so much murderous rivalry as the thrill of the chase that motivates them.

Y

I once asked my daughter who held, as I thought, a privileged position as the youngest child and the only girl, why she had been so frequently disagreeable when she was small, and she answered that it was because she had five brothers and it wasn't fair. I had always thought them rather indulgent towards her. Perhaps jealousy is simply a universal female characteristic and must find an outlet.

I am still baffled as to why Cain and Abel should be the prototype of sibling rivalry when girls are so much better at it; why none of our great minds has ever really addressed the topic. Maybe it's ancient, masculine arrogance, the conviction that it doesn't matter what the girls get up to, back at base. Or perhaps the savage truth is just too frightening to contemplate.

Alice Thomas Ellis

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ters, but all were fearful lest another should have a superfluous garment with more fur round the collar or better buttons. They never went to the lengths of ruining a sister's party frock by putting tidless, indecent colouring pencils in its folds — but I know a child who did. She said it was her sister's fault for doing her homework in the bedroom, thereby subtly demeaning her elder sister for being a swot, and careless to boot, and somehow managing to exacerbate herself from blarney.

As we were discussing these unseemly events another

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rivalry; and Valerie Grove on why teenagers seem compelled to conform to stereotype

'Sleepless nights are caused not by the presence, but by the absence of the child'

THE TEENAGE YEARS

Standing by the toaster, Erica, concerned, holds her children, whom she once thought the most beautiful beings on earth. Jeffrey's streaked blond hair hangs tangled and unwashed over his eyes... he hunches awkwardly above the table, cramming fried egg into his mouth and chewing noisily. Matilda, who is wearing a peevish expression and an orange tie-dyed jersey, which looks as if it had been spat on, is stripping the crusts off her toast with her fingers. Chomp, crunch, scratch...

"In her whole life she cannot remember disliking anyone so much as she now sometimes dislikes Jeffrey and Matilda."

This graphic passage from Alison Lurie's novel *The War Between the Tates* (1974) is just one literary example of how parents are forewarned. Lurie's Erica remembers her children's babyhood, the happy albums, and scrapbooks of drawings and school reports reflecting how perfect her children were once, before they grew "rude, coarse, selfish, nasty, bruish and tall".

Teenage children are so predictable. And so are their parents, even if we knew in advance what to expect. "This is such a cliché!" I rage, as another daughter goes out slamming another door.

Beautiful, clever, and good as one's children are (they might read this) they also

seem compelled to conform to the stereotypes they do come home late, stay in bed till noon, play loud music, treat this house like a hotel, dump loads of crumpled laundry on the landing, keep your favourite coffee mug in their room until it grows spores, make doorstop-sized peanut-butter sandwiches just before supper, devour whole bottles of milk and Coke standing at the fridge door, ignore the expensive outfit you bought in favour of an Oxjam cast-off or something from a skip, permanently require a new piece of electronic equipment, and regard *Neighbours* and *The Simpsons* as sacrosanct. (Actually we all love *The Simpsons*.)

They are constantly on the telephone, with nothing to say but much to laugh about; or in the bath, slapping Body Shop face packs on flawless skins or re-colouring their hair. The chaos in their bedrooms achieves a certain artistry. They recline on your study chair, Doc Martens on desk, affronted and indignant when you ask for your desk back. They never go out (usually to Camden Lock or Portobello to buy another little top) without asking for a fiver. They grow into giants, with giant friends, and gigantic appetites, reducing your spacious kitchen to the size of a galley. Their vocabulary is full of "cool" and "wow". I have just listened to a

discussion between one of the girls and her long-suffering father, about whether she may have her navel pierced so she can wear a stud in it. "No one will see it." "Then what's the point of it?" "Lots of people have one." "Only imbeciles mutilate their bodies" etcetera — oh Lord, not again. Three daughters in seven years means at least a decade of this kind of confrontation.

When it comes to basic incompetence in life skills — losing travel cards; going to a museum on the one day it is closed; demanding a new calculator at 11pm on the eve of maths GCSE; needing to be chauffeured to distant places, having no concept of the geography of London, leaving unstamped letters in the hall, expecting them to be posted by magic — I am on shakier ground. As my husband points out, it is I who am the great loser of things (only on Saturday he had to rescue me when I had lost my car keys in Fenwicks) and my study is a tip, so I seem to have passed on my worst failings (cf. "They fill you with the faults they had" — Philip Larkin).

The wail of the parent of cute new babies is that they never realised how exhausting it would be. Such whines provoke a cynical laugh from the teen parent, whose sleepless nights are caused by the absence, not the presence of the child, and who knows that no amount of Calpol can now soothe their woes. I now

admire anyone who has survived being at the cutting edge of parenthood. As Fay Weldon once said to me: "People without children can go on believing they are a nice person." The childless lead unimaginably charmed lives, uninterrupted by demands, exams and the daily life-or-death decisions caused by the teenager's total lack of fear of dark streets, and magnetic attraction for places where terrifying mobs gather.

There is a great deal of natural charm about teenagers'

Sex is, strangely, not a bothersome subject. Years ago, when my three daughters were under six, Drusilla Beyfus, mother of the glamorous Shulman girls (one now edits *Vogue* and the other is a countess) told me: "You must accept that teenage relationships today begin, rather than end, with sex." At school, tampons were handed out in their PSE lessons. When I first heard a daughter shouting unabashedly to her father departing for Sainsbury's

"Dad! Get me some Tampax Regular and some pads with wings!" I thought how different from our own formative times, girls excused gym because they were "unwell", carrying home Dr White's boxes the size of cornflakes packets.

I have gradually learnt to remember that I, too, was a teenager. When I read the diaries I kept from age 13 to 18, I realise that there are many embarrassing similarities. Of course I never slept until midday, and nobody could stand in our freezing hall on the telephone for hours. There was no loud music then in bedrooms (only Jimmy Savile's "Under the bedclothes club" on one's transistor) and no question of having three or seven, friends sleeping over in one's room, as our lot routinely do. I read more than they do, and played tennis more; but I was just as keen on going to parties (and giving them). And I brought home youths who dropped in the doorway, awaiting parental approval. (Now I am that parent, while the youths look much the same.) I had thought I was a complete swot, but the evidence shows that I spent a lot of time just having fun, and even more time mooning over the aforementioned youths. The great difference for lucky us was that there was no AIDS, and no drugs the Pill arrived conveniently for my 19th birthday and nobody offered me any marijuana until at Cam-

bridge my friend F came back from India with a package, saying: "Is this illegal or something?"

I reproach myself for turning into a cliché, too, uttering the banal, nagging reprovals, and waxing lyrical about Buddy Holly and Chuck Berry. Like my parents I mix up their friends — understandable when so many are named Daniel. One year Emma's circle were known as James I, James II, James III and James the Last. It's slightly irritating that I am not permitted to criticise their clothes, while they are allowed to tell me my Christian Lacroix makes me look like a bimbo or that I am wearing "old woman's shoes". You don't have to behave as Edina and Patsy to induce pliosus revulsion in our friends — making us howl. Shared family jokes do make us laugh, though. I constantly surprise you by reading *Madame Bovary* unbidden, or scoring a century by their singing voices, their

bursts of creative activity in writing a good poem, or by sudden acts of kindness: emptying the dishwasher, or rescuing a fledgeling and keeping it alive by finding it worms. There is a great deal of natural charm about teenagers.

Within ten years they will be gone (though I am told the teens now last till 30). Lucy, already 20, is beyond the teen label, has backpacked fearlessly through South America, and fled the nest.

I am forewarned by older friends that I will find their empty rooms unbearable, and wish them back with us — and it's true to say that whenever we make a brief escape *à deux*, we talk of little else but the four of them.

I announced that I was writing about teens, to general groans. "There's lots more stuff you don't know about," said Lucy, curling her lip and tossing her hair. Perhaps I should keep it that way.

VALERIE GROVE



Valerie Grove, at the cutting edge of parenthood with three of her four children, says she has passed on her worst failings. From left Emma, 16, Oliver, 13, and Victoria, 15

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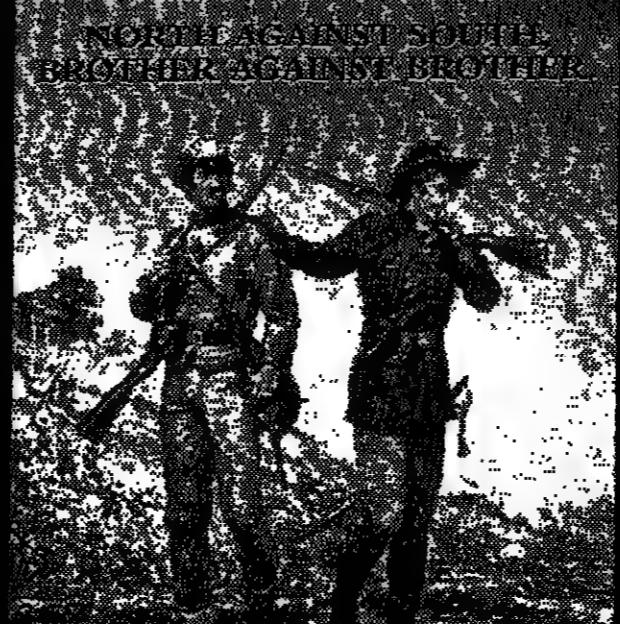
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PersonalWorld peak rates are 0.00-10.00p min to UK, 10.01-15.00p min to Europe, 15.01-20.00p min to the USA, 20.01-25.00p min to Australia, 25.01-30.00p min to New Zealand, 30.01-35.00p min to South Africa, 35.01-40.00p min to Japan, 40.01-45.00p min to South Korea, 45.01-50.00p min to Hong Kong, 50.01-55.00p min to Singapore, 55.01-60.00p min to Thailand, 60.01-65.00p min to Malaysia, 65.01-70.00p min to Indonesia, 70.01-75.00p min to New Zealand, 75.01-80.00p min to South Africa, 80.01-85.00p min to Japan, 85.01-90.00p min to South Korea, 90.01-95.00p min to Hong Kong, 95.01-100.00p min to Singapore, 100.01-105.00p min to Thailand, 105.01-110.00p min to Malaysia, 110.01-115.00p min to Indonesia, 115.01-120.00p min to New Zealand, 120.01-125.00p min to South Africa, 125.01-130.00p min to Japan, 130.01-135.00p min to South Korea, 135.01-140.00p min to Hong Kong, 140.01-145.00p min to Singapore, 145.01-150.00p min to Thailand, 150.01-155.00p min to Malaysia, 155.01-160.00p min to 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Vote to stop the federal juggernaut

Bill Cash on why MPs should support an early referendum

Why have I proposed my Referendum Bill, and why now? *Times* readers may have seen it coming since the Maastricht debates, when I put down more than 200 amendments. I also voted against the treaty 47 times, and presented a referendum petition with 350,000 signatures to the House in July 1993.

My Bill is not about whether the UK should be "in or out", as the federalists claim. It is about what kind of Europe we are in and where we are going. Nor is it a matter of Left or Right, as my list of sponsors clearly shows. They properly range across the national political spectrum, including Privy Counsellors and former Cabinet members, as well as David Trimble, the leader of the Ulster Unionists. As recent opinion polls show, British voters want to remain in the European Community for trade and political co-operation, but they do not want a federal Europe.

The Prime Minister is right when he says that if member states insist on federalism, then Britain will not follow them. The problem, however, is that under the Maastricht treaty, we are surfing on a tidal wave of federalism. The treaty does not allow us to prevent other members going ahead with a single currency, and states that it is irrevocable. Even if Britain were, say, to exercise its opt-out (which the Government is not at present prepared to do), a future government could still join. The prescription, therefore, is for an irreversible move to monetary union (and thus political union too). No wonder the electorate is confused, particularly since the original White Paper of 1971 stated that we would not give up the veto of our sovereignty, and would not become part of a federation (though this is now denied by the Euro-fanatics who pressed for the European Communities Act of 1972).

The outbursts from the unelected official Jacques Santer over the beef crisis simply illustrate my case and reveal the underlying problem of democratic legitimacy. The question is: who governs Britain — and how?

There are fundamental reasons for holding a proper referendum in the UK before the inter-governmental conference is concluded, after our general election, late next year. Who represents Britain at that conference will be crucial to the national interest. The Government has already properly agreed in principle to hold a referendum, but only if a Conservative Cabinet says "yes" to a single currency. This qualification is — or ought to be — unthinkable, because a single currency would destroy our parliamentary democracy. Furthermore, Chancellor Kohl and the Euro-federalists' obsession with political union and the consequences of a hardcore Europe would also undermine the single market.

In the light of present failings of the EU and of the exchange-rate mechanism —

My Bill is about where we are going in Europe

A federal Europe involves surrendering the levers of national democratic government to central, unelected officials and a remote and unrepresentative European Parliament. We should insist that the UK's decisions about its national interests be made before the conclusion of the inter-governmental conference, and not by the Maastricht timetable. The Government and the official Opposition both decline to propose the fundamental amendments to the treaty which are necessary in our own and Europe's interests, to ensure that we can govern ourselves in the spheres that really matter. So a proper referendum is required of those who will be most affected: the voters themselves. It is the judgment of the people that is now required.

The author is MP for Stafford and chairman of the European Foundation.

Whose hearth?

THE MARQUESS of Bristol's attempt to help to finance a new lifestyle in the Bahamas by selling off heirlooms today from the family home at Ickworth in Suffolk has been too enthusiastic by half. Two marble fireplaces, valued at more than £50,000, have been withdrawn by Sotheby's from the auction because they are not the Marquess's to sell. National Trust

officials spotted the fine examples of 18th-century Italian craftsmanship while flipping through the catalogue, and claimed ownership. Sotheby's yesterday admitted grudgingly to doubt about the ownership. "Two fireplaces have been withdrawn, one of which seems to belong to the National Trust; it is even less obvious who owns the other," said a po-faced spokesman.

The Trust has no doubt whatsoever. "They came as fixtures and fittings with the transfer of the east wing in 1956," said the local representative. "They are actually fixed in place in the house. This is indeed fortunate, because three years ago one of these two fireplaces was removed, presumably on the instructions of the Marquess. The National Trust discovered its absence in the nick of time and had it reinstated."

Red to blue

BUTLIN'S Redcoats will for one evening this week turn a shade of blue, as Baroness Thatcher graces one of the company's happy holiday homes. She is to be guest



speaker at Butlin's Somerset World Holiday Centre in Somerset, the curious venue for a celebration in honour of her former Defence Secretary Tom King.

Mr King, a red-hot tip in the knobby knees stakes, notched up 25 years as MP for Bridgwater last year, but the official celebration was delayed until the Baroness (favourite of glamorous granny) was free to attend. "They do what they call a silver service. It's an upmarket meal served with cutlery on the table," explains a constituency functionary. "There will even be a chalet for Lady Thatcher to change in."

How Good?

NOW THAT Cristina Odone has left the chair of Editor of the *Catholic Herald* to write novels, reli-

gious tipsters have opened their book on her replacement. Odds are shortening on Paul Goodman, the monk turned comment editor of *The Daily Telegraph*.

Goodman, whose pin-striped style couldn't be further from the mini-skirted manner of the Odd One — who referred to church dignitaries as little bunny rabbits. A cerebral chap, he is keeping his silence. But he has his following, and is said to have been approached.

If he were to get the job, it would be a considerable change, to a much more traditional and right-wing leaning paper. "He would be

very good at all the topics the *Herald* focuses on," gushes Harry Coen, the caretaker editor.

The horticultural world is desperately excited about a new heavyweight boxer Lizzy which has been developed. It is to be named "The Bruno" after the WBC world heavyweight champion boxer — because it is sturdy and thick.

Rabin shrine

AS ISRAEL retaliated against the Iranian-backed Hezbollah yesterday, details of an unusual monument to Yitzhak Rabin, the assassinated Israeli Prime Minister, are being finalised in Oxfordshire.

A peace park has been created in Launton which is twinned with a similar venture in Eilat. Two businessmen have created a pond in his memory and are awaiting the arrival of a large stone from Carmel, in Galilee, which will be inscribed and form the centrepiece.

Hair raiser

AFTER months of scrupulous planning for Euro 96, the oversight of one small detail threw the Italian campaign into chaos. The team, arguably the continent's most fragrant sportsmen, arrived



Maldini's fly-away look

at their training camp at Manchester University's Crews Alser Colle-

age to discover an alarming absence of hairdryers.

"Where are the hairdryers?"

came the distressed cry of Paolo Maldini and his amici.

"Hairdryers? For men?" was the incredulous Lancastrian response. Its coach saw his championship hopes slipping away. Then a lifeline: special permission to use the hairdryers in the women's changing rooms.

P.H.S

Say no to the IRA's memorial
The City can save St Ethelburga's, says Giles Worsley

Today the City of London's planning committee will decide the future of one of the few surviving medieval churches in the City, St Ethelburga's. It is just over three years since an IRA bomb tore through the heart of Bishopsgate, appearing to demolish St Ethelburga's as it went. But as conservationists picked their way through the devastation, they were surprised to discover that two thirds of the building had survived — too much to demolish without further ado, too little simply to repair. How the building should be restored has divided conservationists and architects ever since.

The blast destroyed the facade and most of the very plain north wall and brought down the roof, but the most significant architectural elements of the building, the east wall with its tracery window and the arcade of the south aisle, together with the south wall, remained largely intact. Two options soon emerged. One promoted by the Friends of St Ethelburga's, was to restore the building to its original appearance. Plans showing how this could be done were drawn up by the architects Rothermel Thomas, declared practical by structural engineers and have already received planning permission; but lacking the support of the Diocese of London, they sit in limbo. The alternative was to encase the remains in a modern structure, and it is just such a scheme, by the Bleu Etwin Bridges Partnership, that the Diocese of London has presented to the planning committee.

Combining elements of an old building with radically modern ideas in this way requires an architect of genius, such as the Italian Carlo Scarpa. Sadly, there is no sign of that genius in the scheme before the committee. Far from giving new life to the structure, it seems to encase the remains with all the sterile charm of objects in a museum divorced from their context. If built, the carefully consolidated ruins will remain as permanent testament to the IRA's successful outrage.

But the odds do not look good for the Bleu Etwin Bridges scheme, the glass facade of which has been variously compared to a wine bar and a car showroom. Despite the support of English Heritage, it was savagely attacked by the Royal Fine Art Commission, who condemned it as undistinguished, remained unconvinced by the basic concept and suggested that alternatives — including reconstruction — must be considered. A wide range of conservation bodies have joined in opposing the scheme, with only the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings arguing in its favour. Now the corporation's planning officers have recommended refusal, arguing that the designs lack merit and fail to make a positive contribution to the building's architectural character.

If the committee votes in favour of the modern scheme, it is unlikely to be out of conviction that this is a great work of architecture, but for fear that the alternative is some form of backward-looking pastiche, proof that the English have lost all confidence in modern architecture. This is absurd. What is appropriate in the unique case of St Ethelburga's has no bearing on what should be built elsewhere. Nor would restoration be evidence of a particularly English nostalgia.

Restoring, even reconstructing, buildings badly damaged by disaster, whether natural or man-made, has been one of the most characteristic responses of the 20th century throughout Europe. Numerous buildings, even whole towns and cities, were reconstructed after the Second World War. At the moment a cathedral demolished by Stalin is rising in Moscow, while the Frauenkirche, whose great dome once dominated Dresden, is rising from a pile of rubble, a project 20 times larger than the restoration of St Ethelburga's. Proof that such restorations can recapture the spirit of the lost original is to be found in Italy, where the delightful town of Venzone, flattened by an earthquake in 1976, has been rebuilt *dovera, com'era* — "where it was, as it was". Its cathedral was consecrated last year, the effects of the earthquake still evident, but very clearly the building that it was before.

The City of London's planning committee should have no qualms about rejecting the Bleu Etwin Bridges scheme, nor the Diocese of London in looking again at the Rothermel Thomas scheme. Too much momentum and energy has been lost already through prevarication. It is time the church was rebuilt. We have the skills and the information to do so; all that is needed is the money, an estimated £2.3 million, as against £3 million for the Bleu Etwin Bridges scheme.

Once restored, St Ethelburga's, though still bearing the scars of its recent trauma, will be a powerful symbol of resurrection, evidence of the way that democracies can triumph over the affronts of terrorism, not a painful, permanent record of a passing terrorist success.

The author is editor of the magazine *Perspectives on Architecture*.



Two ages of democracy

In Burma, they risk their lives for elections; here we take them for granted

all the time, clicking away with their computer mice to work out, for instance, that someone who reads the *FT* and watches *Rory Bremner* and eats supermarket chicken tikka may very well be in the market for a fine-mesh lock-neck turtle-neck sweater at £29.99. They take the information from anything from street surveys to the strangely irrelevant questions on the guarantee slip for your new electric kettle.

What is new is the application of these techniques to canvassing. But it had to come. No point preaching to the converted, after all, or wasting an expensively printed list of Conservative achievements on some ungrateful lefty household which will only line the birdcage with it. While the letter may not actually begin "You have been selected from thousands in your area to be invited to vote Conservative", that will no doubt be the general line of it. Thus modern mail-order marketing techniques are merged with the democratic process.

It is a high-tech version of the canvasser's time-honoured skill of guessing whether the lady on the doorstep cares more about crime or civil liberties, and adjusting the spiel accordingly. The Pike operates, according to Robinson, will now refine it by sending out opinion questionnaires to individual voters, so that John Major can later seem to write a personal letter to them. I suppose they could also vary his clothes in the attached photo, according to the householder's known taste in turtle-neck sweaters.

It will work. Personally, I always make a point of filling commercial questionnaires with inconsistent lies, just to foul them up. "Cambridge educated, *Sunday Sport* reader, rent a bedsitter, earn £50,000 a year, vote *Natural Law* party, consume 2lb of caviar a week, 16 children, no TV, and drive a Reliant Robin." That sort of thing. Marketeers, however, assure me that this is a rare, as well as a silly, aberration, and that most people are

unaccountably truthful and meticulous in their returns. So whatever else Pike may be, it is probably pretty accurate.

Thus we are wooed, and thus we may well be won: if not by computer-assisted flattery, then by equally famous techniques. First of all — unlike the Burmese crowds, or the queues which snaked patiently across South Africa on election day — we still have to be coaxed to exercise the right that other people die for. Britain considers itself virtuous because 77 per cent of us vote; in America it is only 50 per cent. So youth will be tickled with "Rock the Vote!", maturity will be flattered by personalised letters, and old age will be offered lifts to the polling station and cups of tea. It is like watching an unreasonable toddler being coaxed into having a a dinner for the want of which millions of poorer children die.

Worse than this, though, are the enticements which have become part of the daily routine of British politics. Details of policy are considered dull, so our appetites must be tempted by rousing personal battles (unlike Suu Kyi, our democrats like that word). When a terrible brain disease of cattle appears to be transmissible to humans, and to have killed some, it is no time before the problem starts to be talked about as "Mr Major's Falklands" — a handy opportunity for the Prime Minister to get tough with foreigners. Snoring matches erupt daily over far lesser things: a politician's irrelevant adultery, his or her child's education or spouse's taste in clothes. Those who do not join in are condemned as weak and stupid: quite serious commentators have reproved Gillian Shepherd for not being unpleasant enough over Harriet Harman's child's school, and Jack Straw for insufficient personal venom against Michael Howard.

Opportunities to look loveable are courted. Tony Blair talks soupy to *Parents* magazine about his children

(votes won!) but admits that he has smacked them (hostile press works on it, votes lost!) and regretted it (friendly press retaliates, praises his frankness, votes won back). I may as well join in by exclusively revealing to *Times* readers that Mr Blair is a madman who serves his children breakfast in the small hours — for there is a photograph of the man smilingly pouring out their milk with the caption "Breakfast is a part of the children's daily routine that Tony tries not to miss". In the background, as my lynx-eyed daughter points out, the hands of the kitchen clock stand at ten to three. So: "Blair forces children from bed before dawn", or "Blair children not fed all day". Or perhaps a paean to Mr Blair's trustful modesty, in not making his office check the pictures?

None of it has anything to do with anything we ought to vote on, nor with the glory of democracy. And yet, God help us, it is democracy. If it shocks newly enfranchised idealists abroad, we can say in our defence that once we too were serious: Victoria Lidiard, the centenarian suffragette, told me how she and her friends put on their best clothes on polling day and walked down the street "like queens so proud". Moreover, the newly democratic nations will soon join in our saccharine-and-sour poisoning of the springs of democracy. Richard Beeston reported in this paper yesterday that Russia is now being treated to the domestic habits of Mr Zhirkovsky (makes himself useful round the house, although perhaps not at 2.50am like our Mr Blair) and to the dress sense of Natalia Brinjalov, wife of the presidential hopeful, for whom a shiny leather bustier and lip-gloss are welcome weapons of democracy. Obviously, they have much to learn from us: perhaps one day they too will boast databases as sophisticated that the bustier can be targeted at the more sex-mad sector of the electorate while the others get pictures of Mrs Brinjalov in a boiler-suit, or wearing a crucifix.

Maybe there is only one moment when democracy is truly beautiful: the moment it is first achieved in thankfulness and hope, as in South Africa and, God willing, soon in Burma. After that it is all downhill to Pike and stagey breakfasts. Maybe democracy always turns tacky in the end. The real danger is that it might, one day, disgust and weary us so much that we welcome a dictatorship.

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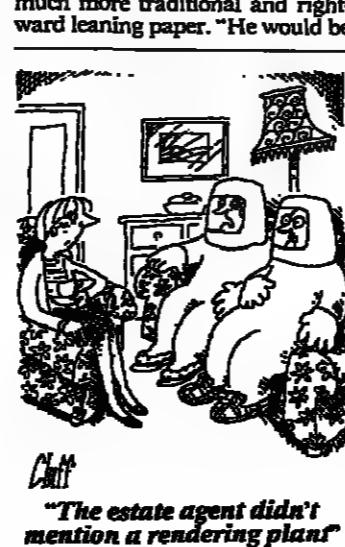
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Bristol fashion



How Good?
The estate agent didn't mention a rendering plan!

OBITUARIES

COLIN MORRIS

Colin Morris, playwright and actor, died on May 31 aged 80. He was born on February 4, 1916.

COLIN MORRIS was the author of *Reluctant Heroes*, the play which opened a series of Brian Rix farces at the Whitehall Theatre in the 1950s, and which had a remarkably invigorating effect on the careers of everyone connected with it. Rix, in particular, had cause to be thankful to Morris. *Reluctant Heroes* launched his career as the shrewdest young actor-manager in the country.

Morris wrote it in the true spirit of farce — roaring, lusty and completely unbelievable. Fine parts were provided for a whole line-up of star actors, not just the usual one or two. Its popularity was as much to do with timing as with anything. With war still fresh in people's memories, the play's square-bashing humour was, to the audience, as horribly familiar as a recurring nightmare. More than 800,000 theatregoers saw its London run. The Whitehall's management did not even have to think of staging anything new for four years.

Colin Morris was encouraged to write from his tenderest years. His father was a businessman with links to the theatre, his mother a playwright and his maternal uncle an actor at Stratford. Morris was brought up in Wallasey, Cheshire. He was educated at a local grammar school, where he excelled at sports and played scrum half in the rugby first XV. But he was not academic and going to university was never on the cards. His headmaster warned him on his last day at school that he must prepare himself for failure in whatever career he chose.

His first job was running errands for an egg seller. But before long he joined the theatre company of Sir Frank Benson, a nursery for much young talent. He worked initially as a call boy, knocking on dressing room doors when actors were required on stage. Walk-on parts followed, and then Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night*. Morris was a thick-set, ebullient man, with a velvety voice and a high-pitched giggle. He was perfect for the part. More Shakespeare followed in Hull at the Little Theatre.

During the Second World War he served as a major in tanks in the Eighth Army. Wherever he went, he found himself in the dangerous vicinity of the front line, which meant that he was constantly shot at. But miraculously, apart from once receiving a splattering of shrapnel in his overcoat, he consistently avoided injury. In Italy he was approached by 142 enemy soldiers who had lost the will to fight.



From left: Brian Rix, Larry Noble, Colin Morris and Wally Patch in *Reluctant Heroes* at the Whitehall Theatre, 1950

and were keen to give themselves up. Armed with only a typewriter, he took the lot prisoner.

Morris wrote for the Eighth Army newspaper, and ended the war as an entertainments officer for Ensa in Milan, where he met his wife Viera Hueln. She was a singer from Croatia but before the war had briefly lived in London. This meant she had a wide repertoire of English songs. She approached Morris for work and was booked for a concert that night.

They were married a year later in 1946 and returned to Britain, to live in a tiny flat in Curzon Street, conveniently close to the clubs where Viera sang. Morris stayed at home and wrote furiously.

By this time one of his plays had already made it to London. *Desert Rats* was an adventure story about an Eighth Army patrol making a dangerous reconnaissance of the road to Tripoli, and was produced at the Adelphi Theatre in April 1945, a year before Morris was demobbed.

Whirlpool, about an English captain during the war who finds himself responsible for 3,000 starving Italian villagers, was staged in 1947.

Reluctant Heroes ostensibly occupied the same sort of military ground. But it was written in a quite different vein, more like an extended revue sketch. Several impresarios who should have known better read the manuscript and called it "uncommercial".

Rix, who was then in provincial repertory, got hold of the script and loved it. With the backing of his father and uncle, he put on its first production at the White Rock Pavilion, Hastings, in March 1950. It then toured and transferred to the Whitehall Theatre on September 12, 1950. Rix took the part of the gormless recruit. Morris played Captain Percy throughout the Whitehall run, and in the film version which followed in 1951.

The success of *Reluctant Heroes* enabled Morris to buy a family house in Highgate in 1951, where he remained for the rest of his life. But, while it made his name, the play was not typical of the rest of Morris's prolific output as a writer. He was a thoughtful man, fascinated by social issues — "the original floating voter," as he described himself. He trained as a marriage guidance counsellor during

the early 1950s, and after the London run of *Reluctant Heroes* was over in 1954, decided to do something quite new. He went on a BBC training course, with Huw Wheeldon, and joined the corporation as a scriptwriter.

Morris was always something of a maverick within the BBC, although he never let his professional disagreements spill over into personal grudges. He was unusual in that he was employed full-time just to write scripts. His specialty was the new genre of dramatised documentary, which he felt was a more effective way of tackling an issue than just pointing a camera at a "real" person. His partner throughout the 1950s was Gil Calder, who had a solid background in television production, and whose firm kept Morris's theatrical imagination in check.

The subjects they tackled included delinquency in *The Unloved* (1955) and, after the publication of the Wolfenden Report in 1957, prostitution. It was a fairly tame examination by today's standards but daringly new at the time.

In 1964 BBC2 was launched and Morris was asked to provide a trilogy of plays around a common theme. These were shown under the banner title of *Women in Crisis*. The first, *Husband and Wife*, showed a young wife struggling with the banalities of housework after a successful career in advertising; another, *With Love and Tears*, was inspired by Brian Rix's experience of having a child born with Down's syndrome. Morris won three awards in all from the Guild of Television Producers and Directors, the precursor of Bafta.

His role of Winston Churchill during the 1930s *Walk with Destiny*, was screened in the early 1970s and starred Richard Burton. Morris did his usual thorough job of research for this, studying about seven books on the subject. He was a fast, voracious reader and built up an impressive library at home.

Interviewing took up more of his last years. He recorded a series called *People in Conflict* in the late 1960s. And as late as 1988 he recorded *Woman of Today* for Yorkshire Television, for which he interviewed a mountaineer, an academic, an environmentalist and a steeplechase jockey. He was still writing, a work of fiction based on some old scripts, at the time of his death.

Morris's gradual retirement allowed him more time to immerse himself in neighbourhood issues. He edited the local community newspaper and enjoyed gardening. He is survived by his wife and by their son and daughter.

BARONESS STEDMAN

Baroness Stedman, former Under-Secretary for the Environment in the Callaghan Government and leader of the SDP in the House of Lords 1988-91, died on June 8 aged 79. She was born on July 14, 1916.

PHYLLIS STEDMAN started her political career as a Labour Party worker at Peterborough in the 1929 general election and remained an active politician until the last week of her life, when she paid her final visit to the House of Lords. She had a 30-year career in local government before moving in 1974 to the Lords, where she was noted for her determination and her refusal to compromise, even if it meant resigning from her party to join the new Social Democratic Party and subsequently deciding to sit as a crossbencher.

Her determination was never illustrated better than in the 1966 general election, when she was Labour agent at Peterborough for Michael Ward, who went on to win the seat. In 1966, however, he lost by three votes with Phyllis Stedman calling for seven recounts. Even after the declaration she refused to accept defeat and spent the next day arguing about disputed ballot papers with the returning officer. Only when she was persuaded that the best she could hope for was a readjusted but unanswerable Conservative majority of one did she give up the fight.

She was born in Peterborough, the daughter of Percy Adams, an iron moulder, and was educated at Peterborough County Grammar School. She was an assistant librarian at Peterborough Library until the war when she became a group officer in the National Fire Service. This began a long association with the service. He was a fast, voracious reader and built up an impressive library at home.

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She had been a close associate of Hugh Gaitskell and, as a traditional rightwinger, became increasingly dissatisfied with her party's drift to the left. She was one of the first Labour peers to leave for the new SDP. There she was initially a whip and then Chief Whip before becoming leader of the SDP peers, in the last days of that grouping, from 1989 to 1991.

She did not follow her colleagues into the Liberal Democrats, led in the Lords from 1988 by Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, preferring to spend the final years of her life in the Upper House of the House of Lords. From 1974 to 1976 she served as vice-chairman.

She was well known to many leading members of the Labour Party and it was no surprise when she was named a life peer in the summer of 1974. Her elevation drew minimum publicity, however, as that summer's list of new members of the Upper House was dominated by the name of Marcia Williams, Harold Wilson's personal and political secretary, defiantly created a peer in the wake of the so-called "slag-heep affair".

Lady Stedman was appointed a government whip in the Lords soon after her arrival. She also became a spokesman on the government front bench for the environment, local government, New Towns and transport. She proved an excellent all-rounder and was rewarded in the final stages of the Callaghan Government by being appointed an Under-Secretary at the Department of the Environment.

With peace came her entry into local government. She was elected county councillor for the Sopley of Peterborough in the first postwar local elections and served there

WALTER SCHWAB

WALTER SCHWAB described as German-Jewish on the dustjacket of his daughter Rabbi Julia Neuberger's latest book, he upbraided her. "We are not a German Jewish family," he insisted. "We are a British family of German origins."

More than half a century earlier he had subtly made the same point to his first com-

manding officer in Aldershot after joining the Army as a volunteer. The officer told him that he was to serve only at home because of his "dual nationality". That was fine, Schwab retorted, so long as others in the same position were treated equally. Asked to clarify he added: "Others of German origin, like Lord Mountbatten..."

Shortly afterwards, Schwab was posted to France and was later evacuated from Dunkirk — he lay on a sand dune reading a novel while waiting for one of the small craft to pick him up. He later saw service in North Africa and Italy and ended the war as a major.

He got a postwar degree in economics from Cambridge — having read medicine at Trinity more than ten years previously — and entered the Civil Service, first on a temporary basis in the executive grade. He went into the Ministry of Town and Country Planning which was later to be absorbed into Housing and Local Government. He rapidly moved into the administrative grade, and became a principal and an Assistant Secretary in the early 1960s. A professional relationship with his first minister, Lewis Silkin, developed into a lifelong private friendship. So did his working relationship with Sir James Jones, ultimately the Permanent Secretary.

He was involved in the shaping of New Towns policy for the 1950s and 1960s as well as local authority regulation. To his amusement, as someone who played no sports he was chosen to represent Britain

at a wide variety of cultural interests. As a Lewis Carroll devotee, he wrote a learned discourse on *The Hunting of the Snark* only last year. The organisation he served ranged from the Bookplate Society, through the Society of Wood Engravers to a series of Anglo-Jewish institutions, principally the Jewish Historical Society and the Ben Uri Arts Society, with its West End Gallery, which he chaired from 1985 to 1990.

He left the gallery with its

works ranging from Jacob Epstein and Janek Adler to Michael Rothenstein and Leon Bakst — a much stronger institution than he found it, with its future now assured into the 21st century. He was fascinated by the fact that Hebrew was taught in public schools as a classical language until the 1920s and gathered a pile of unpublished material on 18th-century English Protestant Hebraists.

He married Alice Rosenthal in 1962 and is survived by her, and by their daughter Julia.

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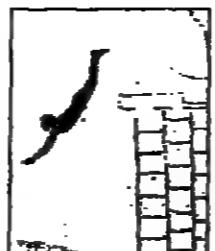
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America finds a new way to handle its drugs problem



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Rusedski finally gets off the mark at Queen's

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THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

TUESDAY JUNE 11 1996

Fujitsu halts plans for £700m plant in Britain

By ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO
AND OLIVER AUGUST

FUJITSU, the Japanese electronics giant, yesterday halted plans to build a £700 million semiconductor plant in Britain, and with it the creation of 500 jobs. The corporation said the reversal was due to a downturn in demand for its computer equipment.

Construction of a plant in Durham to produce 16-megabit dynamic random access memory (Dram) chips was originally due to start in April. But tumbling prices of 16-

megabit Drams prompted Fujitsu to announce in March that it was delaying construction until December, with production to start in 1998 or later.

Together with the £400 million Fujitsu has already invested in Durham the now-halted plant development would have been the single biggest UK investment by an overseas firm. Fujitsu's UK workforce would have doubled to 1,000 by the time the new plant was fully operational in 1999. Construction would have provided temporary employment for 2,000 people.

Yesterday Fujitsu officials also said the company was delaying, for six months, the launch of operations at a plant being built in Oregon in the US. The launch was originally scheduled for early next year.

Fujitsu said however, that it was still considering launching production of next-generation 64-megabit and 256-megabit chips in Britain and America, in view of declining prices and softening demand for 16-megabit Drams.

At a news conference Fujitsu said it had revised downward its expansion plans for 16-megabit Drams,

intending only to double output to eight million units a month in the year to March, rather than the 10 million chips previously envisaged. Kazunari Shirai, a director, said:

"The downward revision is due to the over-supply of micro-chips world-wide."

Other major electronics companies, including Mitsubishi Electric Corp, Hitachi, and NEC Corp, are cutting production or freezing plans to boost output of 16-megabit Drams. Fujitsu, like other Japanese firms, is also shifting some of its four megabit production lines. The

company said it would cut its planned output of four megabit Drams in Japan to 3 million units a month from 4 million.

Japan's big five — Toshiba, Fujitsu, NEC, Hitachi, and Mitsubishi Electric — make about 40 per cent of the world's chips.

NEC announced on June 6 that it would cut 16-megabit Dram chip production by 20 per cent for August and freeze plans to boost output beyond the current 11 million units a month. Hitachi has also voiced concern about the outlook for 16-megabit Dram demand, indicating

a possible freeze on its plan to expand production.

Fierce competition from lower cost Asian producers, notably in South Korea and Taiwan, is forcing them to switch to a new generation of memory chips to maintain their edge. The combined market share of South Korean and Taiwanese firms has grown more than ten-fold in the past decade to reach 12 per cent.

South Korea's Samsung Electronics said on May 30 that it was slashing 16-megabit Dram output by 15 per cent because of tumbling world market prices.

Names demand levy of £3bn

By SARAH BAGNALL

A GROUP of dissident Lloyd's names has called an extraordinary meeting of the insurance market, demanding that existing names are paid a levy worth about £3 billion over the next 15 years.

The sponsor of the meeting, which include the Lloyd's Names Association's Working Party (LNAWP), argue that the current settlement offer is unfair because the "Council of Lloyd's has not been tough enough with the vested interests in getting more resources".

The first of four resolutions calls for a compulsory 2 per cent levy on turnover against the ongoing market — brokers, agents and insureds — for the years 1997 to 2012. Assuming capacity of £10 billion over the period, the levy totals £3 billion. The resolution also calls for a doubling to £400 million of the contribution from Lloyd's managing agents.

The extra funds can then be dispersed among names, leading to a fairer offer, argue the sponsors.

Another resolution calls for the auditors to be excluded from the settlement package because their contribution is deemed inadequate and litigation would produce more.

The third resolution deals with LioCover, the former PCW syndicates. Lloyd's, which has guaranteed LioCover's substantial debts, is planning to transfer the debts into Equitas, the new reinsurance company being set up by Lloyd's to take over names' liabilities.

Finally, the sponsors are calling for a lifting of the levy on names who ceased underwriting before 1996.

A Lloyd's spokesman said: "The resolutions contemplate considerable change to the R&R plan at a very late stage."

The EGM will take place after Lloyd's annual meeting on July 15 at the Royal Festival Hall, London. However, the outcome of the votes on the resolutions is not binding on Lloyd's.

Tony Wilson, chairman of the Wits Response Group, one of the sponsors, said: "Lloyd's does not have to accept what the membership says, but it would be unwise to ignore the outcome."

First profit-sharing deal set up with American Airlines

BA in biggest global link

By RICHARD THOMSON AND JON ASHWORTH

BRITISH AIRWAYS and American Airlines have agreed to combine large parts of their business to form the world's largest and most powerful airline operation. The deal is also likely to lead to the abolition of restrictions on foreign airlines using British air space.

Details are expected today of a pact that will give BA and American an unrivalled global reach and could spark a fares war on the busy transatlantic routes. Analysts said that BA would almost certainly reduce fares on its US services. Others predicted the carriers might force up prices.

Neither BA, where Richard Ayliffe is chief executive, nor American, headed by Robert Crandall, would comment yesterday. Aviation sources talked of a deal that will result in a virtual merger and involve revenue and profit sharing as well as joint marketing and ticketing. It will be the first time that a link between two international airlines involves profit sharing. The carriers do not intend buying a share stakes in each other.

The deal is by far the largest in the current wave of cooperative agreements between airlines, and will have a profound impact on the future of international aviation.

Because of restrictions many companies place on foreigners buying their airlines, consolidation in the industry has tended to take the form of co-operative agreements rather than outright mergers.

The deal is a breakthrough for BA, which has spent years trying to find a way into the huge domestic US market.

Three years ago, it bought a 25 per cent stake in USAir, the ailing East Coast airline, but the investment has been a disappointment. Last year, BA was obliged to write down the value of the investment by 50 per cent, to \$250 million. BA is expected to keep the stake.

The agreement is likely to break the deadlock between the British and American governments over the question of allowing more American competition at Heathrow, which claims to be the world's busiest airport in terms of international traffic, handling more than 54 million passengers a year.

The deal will almost certainly require US government approval. The American government has said that as a condition of approval to such a pact it will demand an "open skies" policy.

America has open skies agreements with ten countries, including Germany, through Lufthansa and United Airlines, and The Netherlands, through KLM and Northwest Airlines.

The US Department of Transportation said yesterday: "We have to see the details of the BA/American agreement before we can tell how this will affect negotiations with Britain. There are no negotiations at the moment."



Robert Crandall, of American, which will share profits

Pennington, page 29



Richard Ayliffe, chief executive of BA, is heading for an unrivalled global reach

Figures back Clarke's rate cut

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

PRICE pressures in industry eased further last month, providing early vindication of the decision by Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, to cut interest rates by a quarter point to 5.75 per cent last week. The Office for National Statistics said Mr Clarke would have seen its figures on Thursday evening, hours after the rate decision had been implemented.

Input prices — the cost of

goods and raw materials to industry — fell by 0.5 per cent in May. Year on year, input prices rose by only 1.1 per cent, against 2 per cent in April.

Even more significantly,

prices to customers by 0.1 per cent in May. This is the first time that output prices have fallen in any month since August 1992. The annual rate of output price inflation fell to 2.9 per cent, from the 3.2 per cent recorded in April. Core output prices — excluding volatile changes in food, drink, tobacco and petrol — rose by only 0.1 per cent in May. Its year-on-year rate fell to 2.4 per cent, from 2.7 per cent.

Simon Briscoe, of Nikko Europe, said that these figures were unambiguously good news for inflation and should

help to bring retail price inflation down.

Geoffrey Dicks, of NatWest Markets, said: "We have always said that these figures will be the ultimate arbiter on the merits of last Thursday's rate cut. On day one, the data are with Mr Clarke."

Published separately, British Retail Consortium (BRC) figures suggested a promising May for retailers, in spite of the poor weather. The BRC sales monitor showed year-on-

year growth of 6.2 per cent, well up on the 4.1 per cent year-on-year rate recorded on average over the previous

three months. Andrew Sentance, BRC chief economic adviser, said: "The recovery in consumer spending is gathering pace and spreading across a wider range of sectors."

The latest cyclical indicators, also issued yesterday, suggested that, although the economy is on a downturn now, it should recover and show renewed growth. The coincident index, which tracks the economy now, fell slightly between March and April, but both the shorter and longer leaders, signalling turning points six and 12 months ahead, continued to rise.

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year growth of 6.2 per cent, well up on the 4.1 per cent year-on-year rate recorded on average over the previous

N&P takeover payout will average £1,300

By ROBERT MILLER

ABOUT 850,000 savers and borrowers with the National & Provincial Building Society will receive average payouts worth £1,300 each when the society becomes part of the Abbey National on August 5.

Details of the takeover bonuses worth a total of £1.35 billion were unveiled by the Abbey National yesterday. The building society that became a bank in 1989 said that 22 per cent of the 850,000 qualifying members, all of whom have been with the N&P for more than two years,

had opted to take free shares. The remainder wanted cash. Under a default clause, two-year qualifying members who failed to complete forms by May 31 will also receive cash.

A further 446,000 customers, with a home loan or savings account at N&P for less than two years, can expect about £500 of Abbey shares.

Provided the Building Societies Commission gives the final go-ahead to the takeover, share certificates and cash will be distributed between August 27 and September 2.

John D. Rockefeller

Of course, some people can afford to ignore mortgage rates altogether.

Alright, money isn't everything (there is, apparently, football), but look at our latest deal — note particularly the low redemption penalty:
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 * Available for mortgages and remortgages up to 90% of the property's value
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typical rate of inflation for the remainder of the mortgage term. In practice, the actual interest rate may differ from that stated. Your options will be limited by the terms of your mortgage. Your mortgage may be repaid earlier than the end date. Please read the full terms and conditions for the offer. John Charcol Ltd is registered with the Financial Services Authority.

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STOCK MARKET INDICES	
FTSE 100	3728.68 (+22.0)
Yield	4.06
FT-SE All share	1874.87 (+8.71)
Nikkei	21719.15 (-42.65)
New York	1042.00 (-29.55)*
Dow Jones	867.55 (-2.94)*
S&P Composite	670.37 (-2.94)*

LIB RATE	
Federal Funds	5.50% (5.50%)
Long Bond	8.67% (8.74%)
Yield	7.00% (7.04%)

LONDON MONEY	
Smith International	8.14% (8.14%)
Lib long gilt future (Jun)	108% (108%)
Yield	108% (108%)
5 Index	86.8 (86.8)

STERLING	
New York	1.8320* (1.8300)
London	1.8313 (1.8317)
DM	8.2028 (8.2040)
FR	7.9881 (8.0148)
SP	1.0000 (1.0015)
Yen	167.05 (168.12)
E Index	86.8 (86.8)

Average top pay at Stoy £92,000

By JASON NISSE

BDO Stoy Hayward, the largest of the middle-ranking accountancy firms, reported yesterday that the average remuneration of its partners was £92,000 last year, a little over half that of KPMG, the only big six firm that discloses its figures.

The income of its senior partner, Adrian Martin, was £275,000, compared with a figure of £740,000 for Colin Sharman, the KPMG chief. This is the first time that Stoy has published a full breakdown on partners' income. KPMG published an annual report after a decision to turn its auditing side from a partnership into a public limited company.

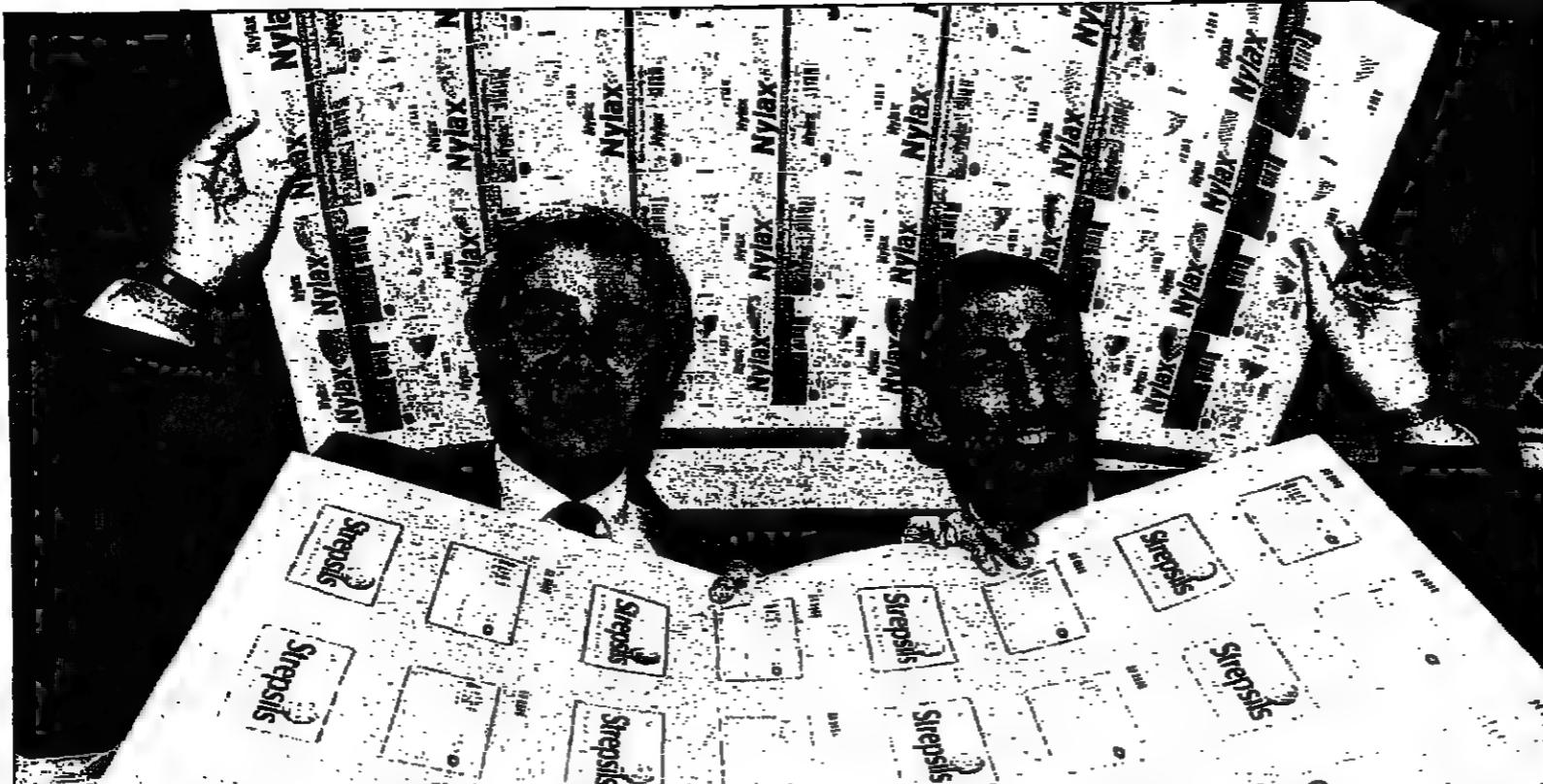
Mr Martin said that Stoy had no plans to incorporate but felt fuller disclosure would show to the firm's clients that the accountants were not "fat cats". Stoy has been leading the battle against the practice of cutting the fees charged for auditing companies in the hope of picking up better-paying tax and corporate finance work.

Stoy made public complaints about "low balling" by Price Waterhouse when it took the audit of the Royal Automobile Club from Stoy last year.

Tax and corporate finance were the strong points as total fee income for Stoy rose by 4.8 per cent to £100.3 million in the year that ended on March 31. The firm has won business from top six firms in the tax advice area and this pushed up income 12.1 per cent to £22.5 million.

In corporate finance, Stoy is the leading adviser to companies floating on the Alternative Investment Market, and this led to a 20.4 per cent hike in fees to £4.4 million.

Mr Martin said that Stoy had benefited from the defection of a number of Binder Hamlyn partners in offices outside London, after their take-over last year by Arthur Andersen. Regionally this was reflected in strong performances in Northern Ireland and East Anglia, where growth exceeded 15 per cent last year.



Keith Gilchrist, chief executive, left, and David Nussbaum, finance director, saw Field Group lift pre-tax profits from £15.4 million to £18.2 million in the year to March 31. The manufacturer of printed folding cartons said there was evidence of a slackening of demand in Europe, but current trading is broadly in line with expectations. There is a final dividend of 5.7p a share, lifting the total to 8.5p, from 7.7p last time

ING sues Deutsche Bank as equities specialists defect

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

ING BARINGS is suing Deutsche Bank in a New York court for more than \$10 million after the German bank poached 50 of its Latin American equities specialists for higher salaries.

ING is suing Deutsche on six counts, including unfair competition, inducing breach of contract and misappropriating confidential information. The move reflects ING's fury at losing a major portion of its emerging markets team.

The case is being watched

which was one of the main strengths of Barings when the Dutch bank bought it last year after Barings met disaster in the derivatives markets.

Although ING paid a nominal £1 to buy Barings, it has spent nearly £1 billion in paying off the bank's debts and maintaining generous bonuses to hold on to staff. It is angry that the value of its investment is being eroded by the loss of key staff.

Deutsche's investment banking arm is based on Morgan

Grenfell, the British merchant bank that it purchased in 1989, and Deutsche is aiming to build this division up into a global firm. It has calculated that it can do so more cheaply by tempting staff from competitors than by buying another bank outright.

ING Barings is merely the latest bank to suffer depreciation by Deutsche. About 60 people have moved to Deutsche Morgan Grenfell from SBC Warburg, and 50 from Merrill

Lynch. Morgan Stanley and other leading investment banks have also lost staff.

Regulators are making "considerable" efforts to coordinate their efforts in the wake of the Barings collapse, a meeting in London was told yesterday (Jon Ashworth writes).

Peter Haines, head of prudential risk with the Securities and Futures Authority, told a meeting of international regulators of the growing emphasis on group-wide regulation.

Mr Haines said: "There is now a feeling that securities regulators should concentrate more on areas such as internal controls and liquidity, which can often only be reviewed meaningfully across the group, rather than in the authorised firm in isolation."

Mr Haines said that current rules provided significant protection against knock-on risks, but conceded that viewing a firm in isolation could be misleading. Greater use could be made of external and internal auditors in assessing the group-wide picture.

City Diary, page 31

Pennington, page 29

Titan 'encouraged bank loans'

By ROBERT MILLER

INVESTORS are being encouraged to borrow money from their banks to join an international money-making scheme described in Parliament by David Rendel, Liberal Democrat MP for Newbury, as "an iniquitous pyramid-selling scam" the High Court was told yesterday.

Roger Kaye QC, appearing for the Department and Trade

Industry, said there was evidence that the Titan Business Club and its associate companies in the UK had advised potential members of the scheme to tell banks they needed the £2,500 joining fee "for a car or something of that nature".

The DTI is asking the court to close Titan's scheme because it amounted to "an unlawful lottery" that was

bound to fail. Members who sign up for £2,500 in turn recruit four or five other members at meetings conducted under conditions of great secrecy to recoup their initial outlay, it was said.

Urging Sir Richard Scott, the Vice-Chancellor, to appoint a provisional liquidator, Mr Kaye said that SHV Senator, the German based management company of Ti-

tan, and the Titan companies operating in the UK, amounted to a "money circulation, money pyramid or snowball scheme".

Lawyers acting for Titan have denied the DTI allegations and say they intend to fight the case brought by Ian Lang, President of the Board of Trade.

City Diary, page 31

Pennington, page 29

Commission urges regional caution

By JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A LABOUR government should devolve real decision-making powers to regional bodies, including the ability to decide spending priorities, but within the £11 billion currently earmarked for spending on economic regeneration, according to a report published today by the Regional Policy Commission.

The Commission, which was set up by John Prescott, deputy leader of the Labour Party, to take an independent look at regional policy, has produced an extremely detailed report which studiously avoids suggesting any extra

public spending and advocates a gradualist approach to change.

Training and Enterprise Councils, for example, would be kept intact for the time being but made they would be more accountable to regional development agencies. Only two quangos would go immediately, others being wound up over time.

Despite its lack of obvious controversy, Labour sources were last night distancing themselves from the report, suggesting that Mr Prescott will look again at the issues, but not for some months.

Standard Life set to make £730m in bank stake sale

By ALASDAIR MURRAY

STANDARD LIFE is set to make about £730 million after confirming that it would sell a "substantial" part of its 32.5 per cent stake in the Bank of Scotland. But the mutual life insurance company has opted for a secondary offering of shares, easing Bank of Scotland fears that the stake could fall into the hands of a potential takeover bidder.

Last month, a row broke out between the two companies after news leaked that Standard Life was considering a sale. Sir Bruce Paitullo, Governor of the Bank of Scotland, resigned from the Standard Life board, citing a conflict of interests.

Standard Life said it wanted to sell the stake, which is equivalent to 6 per cent of the company's total UK holdings, to rebalance its equity portfolio.

Standard Life bought the stake from Barclays for £155 million in 1986. Shares in the Bank of Scotland closed down 16.5p at 248.5p yesterday, valuing the Standard Life stake at £955 million. Standard Life is expected to hold on to about 2.5 per cent of the stake after the sale.



LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

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LEGAL NOTICES

CITY OF LONDON

Election of Sheriffs 1996

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the following candidates are in nomination for election as Sheriffs of this City:

CLIVE HAYDN MARTIN
OBE, TD

Weatherbury, 16 Heath Road
Little Heath, Faversham
Kent ME11 1LN

Alderman and Sheriff &
Newspaper Master

STANLEY KEITH KNOWLES

46 Aubrey Walk
London W8 7JG

Citizen and Chartered Surveyor

The election will take place at the assembly of the Liverymen of the said City in Common Hall in the Guildhall in the said City on Monday, 24th June instant at 12 o'clock noon.

Dated this 10th day of June, 1996.

Bernard Hart

Town Clerk & Chamberlain

Guildhall

London EC2P 2EJ

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICES

INSOLVENCY ACT 1986
NOTICE OF PROOF
NOTWITHSTANDING THE GIVING

□ British Energy's short-sighted dividend policy □ Sun Life arrives in a dull sector □ Alliance in the skies at last

For progressive read regressive

□ WHAT is the opposite of a "progressive" dividend policy? A regressive one? Downtight repressive, perhaps? Such musings are prompted by a British Energy prospectus that promises, quite fraudulently, to take just such a progressive line on payments to shareholders.

By trotting out the usual corporate cliché, therefore, the company binds itself to start life as a quoted entity on the overgenerous side and then ratchet up the payments year by year at a rate some way ahead of inflation. Yet in British Energy's case there is every likelihood that such promises will be impossible to keep even three or four years down the line, for several reasons. A Labour administration, or continuing downward pressure on electricity prices — both could prove fatal to any promise to raise dividends by the 5 per cent plus a year in real terms that the word "progressive" is generally thought to imply.

Consider Labour first. A paper yesterday from Oxford Economic Research Associates (Oxera) attempts to unpick the party's policy on utilities regulation. Two scenarios emerge, which Oxera describes as a modest, evolutionary approach and a radical overhaul. They might better be described as more of the same but tougher, and completely different and

unimaginably tough. The effect would be cheaper electricity and a threat to British Energy's plan to move to dividends that are fully covered by profits.

As to electricity prices themselves, City institutions asked to take British Energy shares have their reasons to talk the price down, and plenty of gloomy research has been produced to prove that they must fall. This seems to have seeped through as last to those advisers, who have inserted a "wealth warning" into the prospectus. If electricity traded in the industry's "pool" or free market cheapens by more than 5 per cent, all promises on dividends are off.

None of the above will make much difference to the three quarters of a million private investors who have expressed an interest in British Energy. They are only concerned at the prospect of handing over £1 for each share and receiving 13.7p back in the form of dividends before any further payment is called for. If any other quoted company was enjoying this sort of forward dividend yield, this would be an indication that the stock market

thought the company was bust, or at the least that dividends would certainly be cut. It would be even stranger if, as with British Energy, the payment was promised without any indication just when, if ever, it might be covered by earnings. But as the Government has forced such a yield on the company, investors might as well form an orderly queue for the shares.

The longer-term implications for British Energy are such that they should be prepared to ditch them as soon as that final dividend is received a year hence. This implies an awful lot of selling next summer.

A ray of hope in the gloom

□ THIS does not look like the most propitious moment to float a life company. In April the sector was all smiles, believing that sales of life insurance and pensions were finally improving and pulling out of the mis-selling scandal. Shares were animated by takeover talk as well as the windfalls coming out of the

Pru's chief executive, wants to broaden out by buying a building society. Sun Life might therefore have wished for a better moment to make its market debut. But the purpose of the sale is to provide some much-needed cash for its parent, Compagnie UAP. It is even being said that the French insurer may have been encouraged by the French authorities to tidy up its finances.

If the French are forced sellers, this should be good news for investors. Following a few management changes, independent actuaries believe that Sun Life is flexible enough to adapt to a changing market. Its products, sold mostly through independent financial advisers, perform well.

It is showing in the recent Money Marketing with-profit survey

distribution of orphan assets.

Now fears of increasing competition from interlopers such as Virgin Direct have darkened the mood. But Richard Branson is not the life insurance industry's only bogey man. Some dealers are also getting agitated about Chris Smith, Labour's Social Security spokesman.

Mr Smith's mind is currently

much exercised on the subject of pensions and how to improve them. His ideal pension plan will

have low charges and be simple to understand, requirements that

would be onerous to some insurers.

No wonder that the Prudential's price has fallen by almost 60p to little more than £4

since the start of May. No wonder that Peter Davis, the

commercial market is another plus. But even if Sun Life is well received, the revival of the sector is not assured.

BA goes the American way

□ TRICKY business, changing planes in mid-Atlantic, which explains why British Airways has made such heavy weather of its talks with American Airlines.

These are so widely known in the airline industry that the US Government has even thought fit to bring out its own response.

But BA has up to now been playing a straight bat and refusing to comment.

By linking with American, BA

would leave its rather less attractive deal with USAir hanging in mid-air. The indications are that

this will remain intact, along with BA's stake for now. But USAir's tiny chunk of the transatlantic market contrasts with BA and American's two-thirds share of all flights between Heathrow and New York's JFK.

BA needs a deal with America

can eventually because in the

three years it has been linked with USAir such alliances have become the norm, and the British carrier is in danger of being left behind. United Airlines and Lufthansa, previously operating on a code-sharing basis whereby both companies appear to the consumer as one, last month took the process a logical step further, gaining clearance from the US authorities to operate as one company.

Other such deals are pending. By allowing for profit-sharing BA, too, is going beyond mere code-sharing. Flexibility will be needed over allowing the Americans access to BA's Heathrow field. In return BA can expect an agreement with American to be waved through with anti-trust immunity by Washington.

SUING Deutsche

□ THERE are few situations so dire, so hopeless that an American lawyer cannot make them worse. The heart sinks, therefore, at the news that ING is heading for the US courts over tempting of staff by Deutsche Morgan Grenfell. The 45 dealers involved will not thus be persuaded to resume their posts at ING's Latin American desk. Nor, if the Dutch bank is successful, would a \$10 million "fine" on Deutsche prevent such predatory action elsewhere.

Unigate on expansion trail with £171m cash

By CARL MORTISHED

UNIGATE, the food manufacturer, held out the hope of a big acquisition after producing better than expected profits and ending the year with net cash in the bank totalling £171 million.

Strong performances from Unigate's fresh foods operations, including St Ivel chilled products and Malton, the bacon and pork processing business, helped the company to shrug off the continuing decline of its doorstep milk delivery business. Operating profits rose by 12.2 per cent to £114 million and pre-tax profits before disposals grew by 7.5 per cent to £125 million.

The sale of Unigate's minority holding in Nutricia, the Dutch baby milk company, as well as Gillsbury, the exhibitions business, and Black-eyed Pea, part of the US restaurants operation, produced an exceptional gain of £175 million. However, the company admitted that the loss of profits from the businesses sold would dilute Unigate's earnings in the current year, indicating



Growth plans: Ross Buckland, left, and Ian Martin yesterday

that the results for this year that would depend on the timing and extent to which cash resources were reinvested.

Ross Buckland, chief executive, and Ian Martin, chairman, say Unigate has resources for small, medium and large acquisitions. It had invested £900 million refocusing the group over the past

five years and expected to exceed that figure in the next five with the emphasis on European foods and distribution, including the UK.

A full-year dividend of 19.2p (18.2p) is being paid from earnings per share of 39.4p (36.8p).

Tempus, page 30

Sales rise 18% at electrical group

By OLIVER AUGUST

ELECTROCOMPONENTS, the electrical and mechanical distribution group, reported record full-year sales yesterday of £560 million, up by 18.5 per cent.

According to preliminary results for the year to March 31, pre-tax profits increased by 15.2 per cent, to £90 million. The company accelerated dividend growth ahead of pre-tax profit growth with an increase of 17.3 per cent, to 6.6p, payable on August 12.

Roy Cotterill, the chairman, said that although rates of growth are slightly lower than those achieved last year, "we remain very confident that through the application of our consistent strategy we will achieve another good year."

He added that construction of the 550,000 sq ft warehouse at Nuneaton will double capacity

Tempus, page 30

in the UK, and support growth plants at home and overseas for a considerable number of years.

Sales at RS Components UK, the British subsidiary, increased 15 per cent, to £368 million. While gross margins have remained constant, development expenditure, principally in warehouse technology and marketing initiatives, has resulted in growth in operating profit trailing sales.

Strong growth continued at RS International with sales increasing 33 per cent, to £152 million. In spite of more difficult trading conditions, profit in the French business grew satisfactorily, Germany is now in profit and Italy is at break-even after three years' trading, the company said.

Tempus, page 30

Sun Life poised for market debut

By ANNE ASHWORTH

SUN Life and Provincial Holdings, the life insurance business, will make its stock market debut on June 24, it was announced yesterday.

The share price is expected to be in the 225p-255p range, which would put a price tag of £1.28 billion to £1.4 billion on the group. The move follows a decision by the company's French parent, Compagnie UAP, to privatise by the French Government in 1993, will be left controlling between 58 and 66 per cent.

Sun Life's advisers report that the level of registrations for the retail offer to the public is good, but numbers will not be given until the helpline closes on June 20.

The reaction from institutions is also encouraging, according to Michael Hart, Sun Life's chief executive.

For private investors, the minimum investment is £1,000.

Better payout served up by Berisford

BERISFORD, the kitchens, doors and food equipment company, reported a rise in pre-tax profits from £11.1 million to £11.9 million in the six months to March 30.

The advance in profits was achieved on the back of an increase in sales from £158 million to £242.6 million.

The interim dividend of 1.5p (1p, due July 19) is payable out of earnings of 6.5p a share, up 6.6 per cent from last time.

Berisford is actively seeking suitable acquisitions and has a cash balance of £11.7 million.

Tempus, page 30

Salvesen set for growth after profits dip to £77m

By SARAH BAGNALL

CHRIS MASTERS, chief executive of Christian Salvesen, said the business services group was "well placed to return to the path of profitable growth" as he unveiled a slide in pre-tax profits from £104.3 million to £77.6 million in the year to March 31.

The fall reflected a 28.9 million boost to the previous year's profit from the sale of three businesses. Stripping out the net disposal profit and pre-tax profits slipped from £77.7 million to £76.6 million. Underlying performance was

helped by a strong contribution from Aggreko, which rents out power generators and temporary air conditioners.

Dr Masters said: "Aggreko has had an excellent year with operating profits 19.5 per cent ahead." The business lifted profits to £30.7 million, helped by unusually hot weather in America in the first half of the year that raised demand for cooling equipment.

Sales rose from £128.1 million to £147.3 million.

Logistics, the group's biggest division, saw profits slide

from £45.2 million to £43.4 million on sales of £465.1 million (£394.6 million). Its profits were dragged down by the European division, where profits fell 6.5 per cent to £34.5 million.

The final dividend of 5.15p made a total for the year of 8.65p, up from 8.4p last time. The dividend, due August 5, is payable from underlying earnings of 8.5p, down from 19.5p last time. The shares rose 1p to 244p.

Tempus, page 30

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STOCK MARKET



MICHAEL CLARK

Wall Street provides London springboard



Colin Gaskill, the managing director of 600 Group, and Tony Swoett, managing director (tools), saw the shares rise

WALL Street provided investors in London with the springboard needed to claw back some of its recent losses.

But while brokers acknowledged that London had over-reacted to the recent falls in New York, they were also forced to concede that yesterday's rally did not contain any real substance. This was a fact underpinned by the low levels of turnover that saw less than 500 million shares change hands by the close.

In the event, the FT-SE 100 index closed well below its best of the day with a rise of 220 at 3,728.8, having been more than 30 points higher earlier in the session. This was almost certainly a reaction to news of an opening 30-point fall in New York in resumed trading after the weekend break, with investors continuing to ponder the prospect of an imminent rise in interest rates.

Fading prospects of a bid left Bank of Scotland nursing a fall of 16½ p at 249p. Its 32 per cent shareholder, Standard Life, plans to sell the bulk of its holding via a share offering. This will have the effect of splitting the stake into numerous hands, scuppering the hope among speculators that it would go to a single buyer who would then use it as the platform with which to make a full bid.

Elsewhere among the life assureds, Prudential slipped 1p to 406½ p amid revised suggestions that it is planning a rights issue to help to finance a major acquisition. The Pru is thought to have its eye on the Woolwich Building Society, which is proceeding with a public flotation in spite of losing Peter Robinson, its chief executive, earlier this year after only a few months in the job. There has also been talk that the Pru might decide to have a go at General Accident, up 4½ p at 679½ p, and Guardian Royal Exchange, up 1p to 272½ p.

The rest of the banks enjoyed selective support as NatWest Securities and James Capel, the brokers, were both reported to have turned bullish of the sector. Barclays rose 7p to 768p, HSBC 17½ p to 996p, National Westminster 9p to 626p, Lloyds TSB 3p to 305p, and Standard Chartered 4p to 661p.

Boots remained tight-lipped about weekend reports that it intends to pay WH Smith £50 million for its half share in Do-It-All, the loss-

making DIY retailer they own jointly. Speculation about such a move has been rife in the City for months and is expected to be confirmed when WH Smith unveils full-year figures tomorrow. Do-It-All has been in the red since 1992 after the steepest fall in the housing market and fierce competition from B&Q, owned by Kingfisher, and Sainsbury's

expands the number of cafes owned by Rank to 28, with a further 30 under franchise.

Unigate rose 8p to 417p after living up to expectations with full-year pre-tax profits coming in at almost £300 million, compared with a provision-hit £58.3 million last time. But brokers are proving reluctant to upgrade profits for the current year. Unigate now sits

at 16½ p, up 10p from its 12½ p high point in January.

News that SmithKline Beecham had terminated a licence agreement with Proteus covering an NISV vaccine patent came after close of trading. In its rights issue document Proteus said it would receive payment and royalties on sales. It insisted the move would not hurt the group financially. The shares ended 4p down at 75p.

Homebase, Boots finished 3p easier at 595p, while WH Smith jumped 2p to 481p.

The market gave a warm response for plans by Rank Organisation, up 1p at 51p, to acquire the Hard Rock chain of cafes for a consideration of \$410 million. Rank is expected to develop the brand name in the US, South America, and Australia. The move

is on a pile of cash and makes no secret of the fact it is on the lookout for suitable acquisitions.

One company that may attract its attention is Geest, up 20p at 232p, after briefly touching 237p.

More than doubled profits and dividend lifted 600 Group 7p to 287p. The performance was enhanced by a 25 per cent rise in turnover. Michael

Wright, chairman, was optimistic about prospects.

Unigate touched 42p before

ending the session 20p lower at 40p after denying claims that AuraFlex, its automated diagnostic system, had had suffered technical problems.

The group said the problems last year had been dealt with.

Alders firm a further 3p to 213p after shareholders voted to sell its chain of duty-free shops to Swissair for £160 million. Alders decided to recommend the sale to Swissair after it topped a second offer, worth £145 million, from BAA Group, 2p firmer at 485p.

English football appears to be enjoying greater success on the stock market than it does on the field of play these days. Manchester United soared a further 3p to 478p as investors continued to reflect on the Premier League's tie-up with BSkyB for another four years in a deal worth almost £700 million. Tottenham Hotspur also put on 45p at 499p.

Spring Ram, the troubled bathroom and kitchen equipment group, marked time at 16½ p in spite of mounting speculation it may have found a buyer for its Crosby, Sarek and Regency Doors businesses. Word is Prendoor, a Canadian company, is ready to pay £20 million, which will be good news for Roger Regan, Spring Ram's chairman. Last week, he issued another profit warning, which followed hard on the heels of a £43 million loss in March.

□ GILT-EDGEED: An unexpected fall in industrial output was warmly received by investors, raising hopes of another cut in interest rates later in the year. The producer price index for May fell 0.1 per cent to 2.9 per cent prompting demand at the shorter end of the market and resulting in further steepening of the yield curve.

In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt rose five ticks to £105½ in thin trading that saw only 27,000 contracts completed.

In shorts, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 rose seven ticks to £102½, while at the longer end, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 could only muster a rise of £½ a tick to £96½.

□ NEW YORK: US stocks were lower amid nervousness over the decline in the bondmarket. At midday, the Dow Jones industrial average was down 29.55 points to 10,667.56.

Boots remained tight-lipped about weekend reports that it intends to pay WH Smith £50 million for its half share in Do-It-All, the loss-

making DIY retailer they own jointly. Speculation about such a move has been rife in the City for months and is expected to be confirmed when WH Smith unveils full-year figures tomorrow. Do-It-All has been in the red since 1992 after the steepest fall in the housing market and fierce competition from B&Q, owned by Kingfisher, and Sainsbury's

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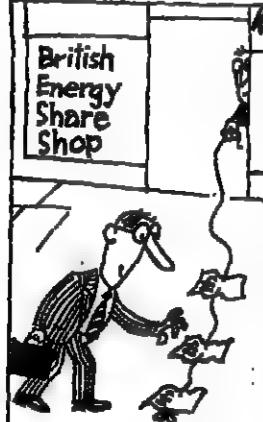
WH Smith unveils full-year

THE
TIMES
CITY
DIARY

SNP left out in the cold

BRITISH ENERGY'S voluminous pathfinder prospectus published yesterday, contained a glaring blunder. The nuclear company that makes great political play being Scottish, that boasts a head office in Edinburgh and a Scottish chairman in John Robb, made no mention of the Scottish Nationalist Party in its prospectus.

Where the document sets out the views of Labour and the Lib-Dems, no reference is made of the self-styled real opposition north of the border, the Scottish Nationalists, who, should Scotland become independent, could well be in charge and who are not overly fond of nuclear power. A disappointed Kevin Pringle, the SNP's director of communications, said the exclusion "adds to our fears that the company will be a south-east-focused one".



In hot water

PHILIP HANSCOMBE, former ICI director proposed as a non-executive director of Spring Ram, the troubled bathroom company, was in hot water last week. At the company's AGM, Bill Rooney and Alan Bell, two former directors of Spring Ram, voted against Hanscombe's appointment. This meant there weren't enough votes from the floor for the appointment to go through. Roger Regan, Spring Ram's chairman, pleaded with shareholders to vote again, adding that taking a poll would only "delay lunch". After Hanscombe's speech, the vote went through.

Bobbitt talk

DELEGATES at a conference in London could not believe their ears yesterday, when Peter Haines, head of prudential risk at the Securities and Futures Authority, began to ramble about "Bobbins" — firms that rely on other group members, usually located overseas, to perform vital functions. Mr Haines adds: "A Bobbitt could be said to be an incomplete member of a regulatory body." Readers may recall the case of John Wayne Bobbitt, a former US Marine, who became a movie star after his wife wielded a kitchen knife.

Convenient call

MERRILL LYNCH played a vital role in the wedding of its banking analyst Richard Coleman last weekend. When Gina Fanning, the bride and former Merrill employee, turned up early for her wedding at St Etheldreda's in the City, she stopped at her old employers to use their loo. Although she left the securities giant last year, the security guard greeted her with open arms.

IF A wig count is indicative on the possible outcome of a court case then the Department of Trade and Industry has its work cut out. In court for the DTI yesterday were two wigs, led by Roger Kaye, QC, trying to convince Vice-Chancellor Sir Richard Scott, of arms-to-Iraq fame, to close down Titan, alleging that it is an unlawful pyramid selling scheme. The Titan side, which denies the DTI allegation, boasts no less than seven wigs.

MORAG PRESTON

Price of workplace flexibility may be rising job insecurity

Philip Bassett
on the state of
the campaign for
an adaptable jobs
market in the UK

A nother fall in unemployment tomorrow will be greeted as a victory for the Government's efforts to bring about a flexible labour market. It is widely believed that employment in the UK has been transformed from a stilted, rigid and poorly performing aspect of the economy to a new, supple and fully flexible labour market that is vital to Britain's economic recovery — and, arising from that, the Government's prospects of being re-elected. Later this week, the Government's competitiveness White Paper will proclaim that theory.

The labour market can provide virtually any number of indicators of its supposed flexibility. The Government's own Labour Market Flexibility study last year looked at many: hiring and firing, labour mobility, wage determination levels, regional pay, working time, hours worked, wage flexibility and intra-job functional flexibility, though, significantly, it could only conclude, cautiously, that while the labour market had become more flexible, the economic effects of such changes were still unproven.

But probably the most widely used are the structural changes to employment, in particular, the level of part-time and temporary working. These are widely held as having increased, thereby sharply increasing the flexibility of the UK labour market.

Today, *The Times* looks at the shape of the British labour market over the last four decades to see if such claims are borne out; to see whether there is greater labour market flexibility; and, if there is, what its effects have been.

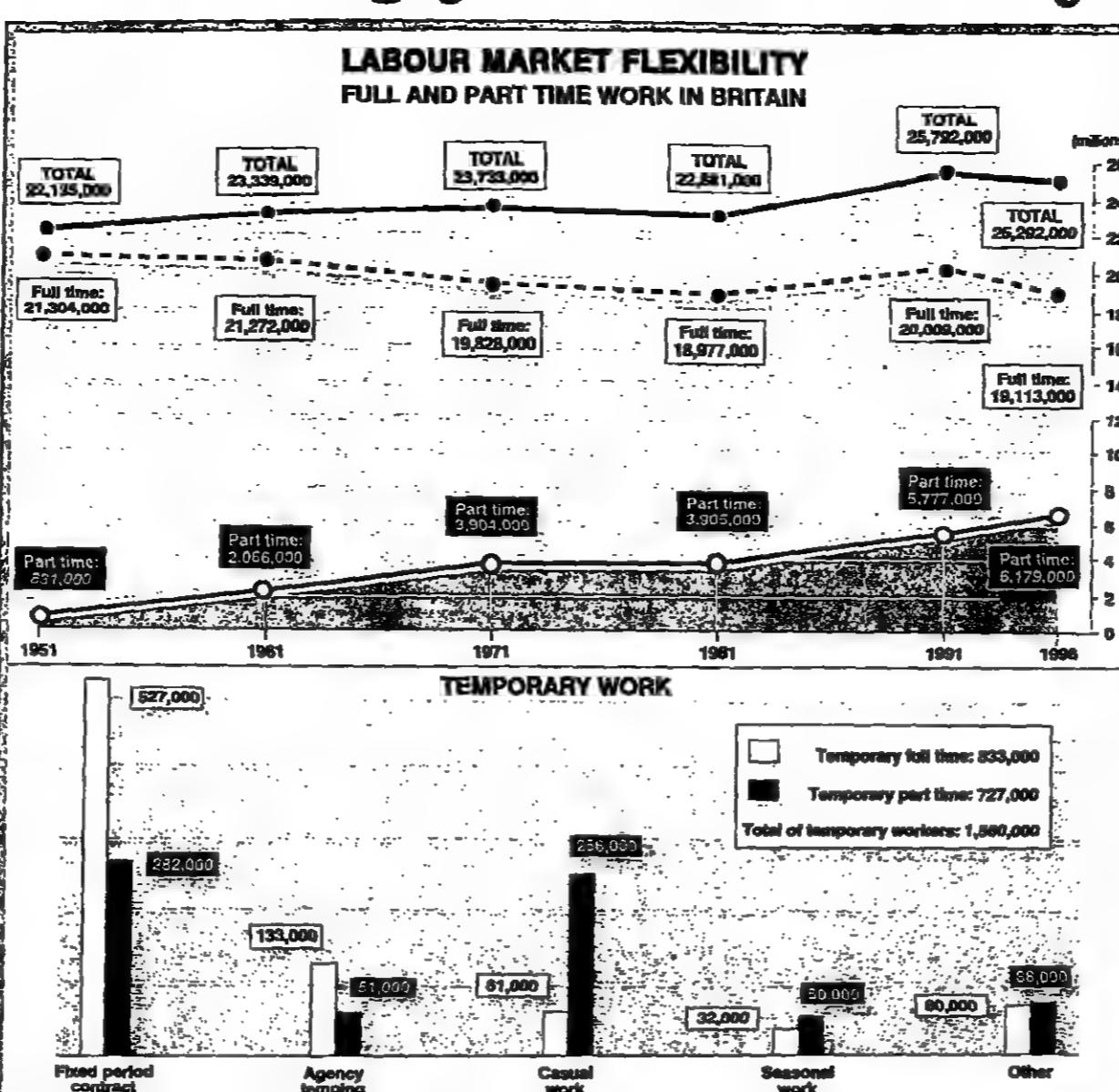
Over the period, as the graphic shows, the change has been huge. Between 1951 and 1991, full-time work has fallen by 6 per cent. At the same time, part-time working has grown almost six-fold — by 595 per cent.

At the start of the Fifties, 96 per cent of all employees were in full-time jobs, with only 3.75 per cent working part-time. By the beginning of the Nineties, the proportion of employees in full-time jobs had fallen to 78 per cent, while 22 per cent worked part-time. Even so, at 5.7 million employees, the number of part-timers was still dwarfed by the 20 million in full-time work.

Part-time working has traditionally formed a higher proportion of women's employment. In 1951, it was 11.5 per cent — 40 years later, after a spectacular 520 per cent growth, it forms 43 per cent of women's jobs.

Whatever the claims about increased flexibility, the reality is that the drive towards part-time employment was much stronger three decades ago than now. But what about the pattern since then? What about the growth of part-time work — and temporary jobs, only charted much more recently by Government figures — in the Nineties? Does that indicate greater labour market flexibility? Again, using figures from the Government's quarterly Labour Force Survey, *The Times* has carried out a computer analysis of trends since 1991 in labour market flexibility.

Over the past five years a number of trends are clear. First, in spite of the fall in unemployment since the end of 1992 (which tomorrow's figures are expected to reaffirm), the number of people in work is down — by 264,000, according to the latest LFS



posed to part-time work. Growth in the 1980s, at about 48 per cent, was only one third of the 1950s rate of acceleration.

Again, within the overall totals, the position of men and women in the economy has been markedly different. Over the whole period, full-time working among men has fallen by 10 per cent — though at the start of the 1990s it not only stood at 93 per cent of the total but only 56 per cent of all part-time working was carried out by men. Even so, the level of part-time working among men has risen by 1,800 per cent — though still only to 901,000, as against 13.6 million male full-timers.

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figures. Of that, the net fall has been entirely among men — down by 300,000, with a 295,000 increase in the number of women in work (insufficient to stop the overall total falling).

Given the dominance of women in part-time working, that pattern is closely linked to the continuing rise of part-time jobs. Over the period, full-time jobs are down by 342,000, or 4.2 per cent, while part-time work is up by 578,000, or 10 per cent.

Greater labour flexibility may be a classic double-edged sword

By gender, the figures are even sharper. Among women, the number in full-time jobs is actually down, by 19,000, to 6.3 million. Full-time male employees are down by 765,000, or 5.6 per cent, while the number of male part-timers is markedly up, by 29.3 per cent, though this increase of 264,000 takes male part-timers to just under 1.2 million, a level that is still low.

The pattern of the changes has fluctuated, with even part-time work falling back in 1994-95 as the economy faltered. Similarly, temporary work — people on contracts, in seasonal or casual jobs, which is sometimes seen as the apogee of labour market flexibility — has remained a steady and low proportion of UK employment.

In 1984, temporary work accounted for 5.3 per cent of all employees. A decade later, after a concerted policy push towards greater flexibility, it

had risen to 6.5 per cent, although its impact has been accelerating more recently.

The most recent period of all is reflecting what looks like an acceleration all round in flexible working. Between winter 1994-95 and the same period this year, the number of employees overall grew by 1.6 per cent. The number of full-timers grew by the same proportion — but the number of part-timers rose by 5.7 per cent, with a 10 per cent rise among men and a 4.5 per cent increase among women.

Similarly, people in temporary work rose by 3.5 per cent overall, comprising a 2 per cent rise in full-time temporary jobs and a 5.4 per cent rise in part-time temporary work.

What all this demonstrates is a restimulation of flexible working in the 1990s. While it is still at nothing like the rates of growth of earlier decades, it is clear that the increase is picking up again as employers choose to adopt more flexible employment strategies.

Government ministers are convinced that this is a wholly beneficial development: greater flexibility will lead to more jobs, increased output, and an improved economic performance.

But niggling in their minds is the stubborn refusal of this improvement to translate into electoral terms — the long-felt absence of the "feel-good" factor. Labour argues strongly that increased job insecurity is at the heart of this, and with unemployment on a long downward trend, it is likely that labour market flexibility is at the core of greater job insecurity.

Most jobs are not "flexible". Even now, after decades of movement towards greater labour market flexibility, two thirds of Britain's employment is full-time — three quarters, if the full-time self-employed are

included. Only one fifth of employment is made up of part-time work.

But flexibility seems everywhere on the rise at work. For many full-time employees this is doubly threatening. First, because such flexible work seems inherently less secure, especially in terms of long-term financial commitments like buying a house on a mortgage. Secondly, because it makes permanent full-time work less secure — more likely to disappear, more likely to be replaced by flexible people in flexible jobs.

Similarly, people in temporary work rose by 3.5 per cent overall, comprising a 2 per cent rise in full-time temporary jobs and a 5.4 per cent rise in part-time temporary work.

It may be, then, that greater labour market flexibility is a classic double-edged sword. Just as companies are finding low and decreasing levels of loyalty as they implement flexible working strategies, so too, at the level of the national economy and national politics, the advantages of the drive — with only relatively limited recent success — towards the flexible labour market may well have a darker undercurrent. And this could play a key part both in Britain's economic recovery and the fate of the Government at the next general election.



Time for some enlightenment

Tomorrow's Mansion House dinner is delicately timed for economic commentators in search of a frisson as well as excellent wine. For the second successive year, the evening pits the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Governor of the Bank of England against each other as after-dinner speakers, just after a contentious decision on interest rates.

But the event is not supposed to be a *Punch and Judy* show, much as a bit of hilarity would go down well at such a formal occasion. On the contrary, the dinner has traditionally been the forum for major statements on monetary policy. On this score, last year was disappointing, with the Chancellor managing to confuse everyone by saying his inflation target was both 1 to 4 per cent and 2.5 per cent or less.

So can we this year plead for enlightenment from both Chancellor and Governor on a far more fundamental issue? This is the question of whether, as five out of six of the Treasury's panel of wise persons so stunningly concluded last week (coincidentally on the day that Mr Clarke cut rates), the economy can now grow faster than it could in the past, without higher inflation. They said that they now believe that the British economy can grow at 3 per cent or higher, over the next three to five years without a rise in underlying inflation.

The wise ones concentrated their analysis on trying to measure the output gap, the difference between actual output and some measure of potential output. The much-used — and much-derided — concept of the output gap attempts to bring into a single figure the whole host of factors that allow an economy to grow further or run up against constraints that will lead to higher inflation. There are physical constraints — a company has only so much machinery and technology and has limits on how much it can produce — or constraints of human behaviour: mostly what wages people demand.

This latter component of an economy's potential is the key to the current debate about Britain. We could hardly be postulating that Britain's physical capacity has rocketed. Nonsense or not the concepts may be. But a sense of how quickly the British economy can grow means the difference of thousands of extra households finding work and that couldn't be more important. Can we ask Mr George for some central bankerly wisdom tomorrow night? And can that be drowned out later by some good old-fashioned common sense on the subject from Mr Clarke?

BUSINESS LETTERS

Cheque-clearance guarantees from banks needed by small businesses

From Saroj K Chakravarty Sir, I am very surprised that the recent revelations by the Consumers' Association about the banks sitting on our cheques and making money did not create much more severe reaction or discussion in the media. From my own experience, I can guarantee that action taken in this partic-

ular area by the Chancellor, or the Bank of England, could save thousands of small businesses going bust. For the first 13 years of our company, James McNaughton Paper Group, we were going under every day. But in 1986, we got a guarantee from the Norwich branch of Bank of Scotland that our cheques would be cleared within 48 hours. Within a short time, our cash flow improved, our borrowing costs started going down, our relationship with our suppliers improved as they were getting paid on time, and we could prepare logical financial plans for our investment and expansion.

I am absolutely convinced if

other small businesses had similar guarantees from their banks, they would have survived and prospered the same way we did. The high street banks have a lot to answer for deepening the last recession. Yours faithfully,

SAROJ K CHAKRAVARTY, Mirna, 55 The Avenue, Beckenham, Kent.

Britain has right approach on social protocol

From Mr C. S. Tubbs Sir, It is strange for Robbie Gilbert (*The Times*, May 22) to say "the problem [for the UK] of the social protocol opt-out ... emerges" when the rest of the European Union only now recognising the correctness of the UK policy.

Members of The Union of Independent Companies do not want that we should give up our advantages of having flexible working policies — or the possibility of giving them up — by now opting "in". If other European Union members see the follies of their ways it is up to them to rewrite the social protocols, not for us

to "rejoin" the social policy debate.

Mr Gilbert has indeed a funny sense of logic when he suggests our "messy" organisation of four ministries being involved in special policy development be changed to an EU-like one or two ministries organisation: I would remind him that we, with the mess, got it right and his preferred one or two ministries set up got it wrong.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER TUBBS
(Chairman),
The Union of Independent Companies,
17 Gillingham Street,
SW1.

Letters to *The Times* Business and Finance section can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5122.

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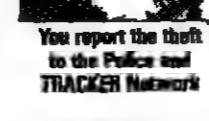
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LAW

Philip Bean reports on an important development in American civil justice



A user sucks heroin into a syringe: is there a case for Britain to try the new American approach to dealing with people dependent on serious drugs?

The doughnut solution

Drug offenders are being dealt with by the American criminal justice system in a radically new way. The creation of Drug Courts — at which judges take charge of the treatment of offenders — is being claimed by some judges to have produced a jurisprudence revolution. Whether true or not, they deserve attention.

There is top-level political will behind the idea. President Clinton has asked Congress for \$100 million for Drug Courts in 1996-97, and Janet Reno, the Attorney-General, supports the concept.

The growth of these courts is staggering. When I first visited them in August 1994, there were about 25 around the country. Now, 20 months later, there are about 180, and that number is likely to rise to 250 in the next year. Forty-three states plus the District of Columbia have a Drug Court programme, and 11 states have enacted legislation relating for planning and funding Drug Courts. The courts, at least in the Miami type, operate as a slow-track court treatment programme. The judge controls and decides the type of treatments to be given, allocates the offender to specific programmes and the court provides and pays for them.

They differ from the so-called fast-track system in which the aim is to move the offender speedily through the system. In the Drug Courts, offenders are not sent to other agencies, not even to court-based agencies such as the probation service for treat-

ment. They are kept firmly under the court's direct control. If the offender fails to meet the demands of the treatment programme he or she can be remanded in custody or required to attend court more regularly. If he does well, he will be allowed to attend less often.

At the end of the programme and depending on the way Drug Courts fit into the specific legal system — whether they operate as part of a deferred sentence or in some other way — the offender can have the charge dismissed, or perhaps be placed on probation.

The Drug Courts movement is a judge-led movement. It de-

treatment in the criminal justice system.

But not all judges like the Drug Courts. They dislike the court ceremonies and the special speakers and prizes that are such a feature of the system. Often, offenders are applauded by all the court staff when they do well. In exceptional circumstances, an offender may be awarded a doughnut. The critics also dislike the interaction with the offenders, and say the Drug Court is not a court at all. They regret a "loss of dignity" of the judge and see dangers when the adversarial system is weakened in this way.

In fact, the Drug Court is not a court — at least, not in

Drug Court. After all, what is the Defender trying to do? Get the offender into treatment or out on the streets? Public Prosecutors find, too, that they have a limited role and remain unhappy with what they see as a form of positive discrimination for drug users: ie, that it pays to be addicted (a 12-month Drug Court treatment is certainly preferable to a long spell in jail).

This raises the perennial question: what type of offender is suitable for the Drug Court? Some prosecutors want to exclude all violent offenders, others the more serious drug users. Yet, paradoxically, it is the serious drug user who is most likely to benefit in the long run. A heavy drug-taker will use an amount of drugs equivalent to that of five or six casual users, and the research evidence suggests that, once into the programme, drug use is dramatically reduced, as is criminal activity.

Supporters brush aside the criticisms. They point to the court's successes and offer a pragmatic justification. What price the dignity of the court and judge, they ask, when success rates are high, while in prison and probation they are low? Again and again, the point is made: Drug Courts work. Not only do they reduce drug use and reduce criminality, they reduce cost: for every \$1 spent on the Drug Court, \$7 is saved in the criminal justice system.

There are also many critics among the public defenders and prosecutors — prosecutors have remained the most trenchant critics of Drug Courts. Public Defenders find they have a less forceful role in

the Domestic Court and to produce courts for drunken drivers. So long as they retain the support of the judges, have favourable research results and remain cost-effective, their future is assured.

The Drug Court movement is one of the most important developments in American civil justice for some time. It deserves to be looked at closely and may well be of value in Britain — it could fit easily into the deferred sentence. If we are to try it here, I hope it will be done properly, and not as a cheap gimmick. The system in Britain, like the old lock 'em up approach in America, does not work too well, either.

• The author is professor of the Midland Centre for Criminology and Criminal Justice, Department of Social Sciences, Loughborough University.

This important idea deserves to be looked at closely — it may well be of value in Britain

veloped out of frustration with a costly and overcrowded prison system where overcrowding was so extreme that violent non-drug offenders had to be discharged to make way for drug offenders — sometimes themselves non-violent. It is sustained by interest and enthusiasm from the judges, by research evidence which shows it is cost-effective, and by reconviction data, which gives very positive results. Already almost 33,000 offenders have passed through the system: the retention rate is about 71 per cent, far higher than for traditional forms of

the traditional sense in which courts are defined — and the role of the judge has changed to one of an active participant with a clear and biased view. He or she wants to keep the offender in the programme and to cure his addiction. This makes the judge a sort of legal social worker, which fits easily into a system in which the main aim is punishment.

There are also many critics among the public defenders and prosecutors — prosecutors have remained the most trenchant critics of Drug Courts. Public Defenders find they have a less forceful role in

contract, and turned to FT Law & Tax, which publishes the *Solicitors Journal*.

Four publishers tendered to produce the 1997 directory. It is expected to come out in September to be distributed free to more than 8,000 solicitors' firms. Plans are afoot to put parts of the directory on the Internet.

All together now

EVEN lawyers, accountants, and bankers can play together in harmony when it's for charity. On June 20 musicians and singers from law firms Freshfields, Lovell White Durrant, Macfarlanes, Taylor Joynson Garrett and Wilde Sapte will join musicians from banks BZW and Goldman Sachs and accountants KPMG and Binders at St Bride's Church, Fleet Street. The concert will raise funds for St John Ambulance and the St Bride's restoration fund. Details: Tim Olsen on 0171-236 0066.

SCRIVENOR

• DR David Thomas, critic of the Government's sentencing reforms, has just been made an honorary QC. He is a reader in criminal justice at Cambridge, a Vice-Master of Trinity Hall and an associate tenant of Cloisters, the radical set led by Laura Cox QC.

THE important Bar Council contract for the production of its annual *Bar Directory* has switched from one rival legal publishing house to another. The council has stopped using Legalese, publishers of *The Legal 500* directory and *Legal Business* magazine, at the end of its five-year

In at the deep end

GARY Streeter, the Lord Chancellor's new junior minister, is a partner with Foot & Bowden, the Plymouth firm of Tony Holland, the former Law Society president, who had a hand in shaping the Lord Chancellor's thinking on the forthcoming legal aid White Paper. Mr Streeter, 40, has been assistant government chief whip since 1995 and has a good legal pedigree: before that he was PPS to the Solicitor-General and also to the Attorney-General.

He arrives in his new job at a critical moment. The future of the Family Law Bill — report stage next week — lies in the balance, with Labour threatening to scupper this amended version.

Expert view

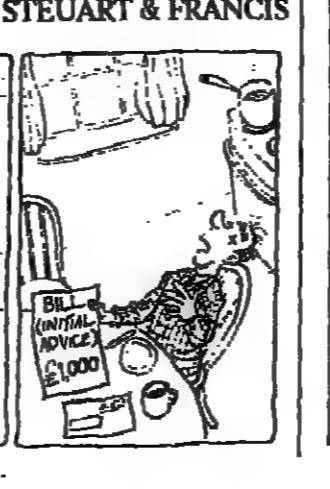
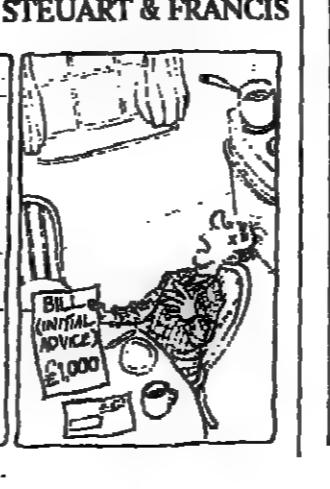
SIR Richard Scott will give his views on how the civil

justice system should be reformed at the London School of Economics today. In January Sir Richard was given special responsibility by Lord Woolf's civil justice system reforms. But will he keep the job now that Lord Woolf is Master of the Rolls?



Streeter: legal pedigree

QUEEN'S COUNSEL



- CPS DEBATE GOES ON 37
- LAW REPORT 41

A little light on the Euro Court debate

The Home Secretary's speech to the European Research Group on May 17, which was deeply critical of the European Court of Justice, was applauded by the Eurosceptics. It provoked, not surprisingly, a letter to *The Times* on June 5, from Lord Mackenzie Stuart, a former president of the court, and other leading judges and academics supporting the past record of the court.

I happen to support the view of Lord Mackenzie Stuart and his colleagues and was surprised at Michael Howard's speech, which in tone, at least, went well beyond the Government's measured and constructive position in its recent White Paper. His speech heightened the risk that there will be continuing debate on the past record of the court when there is a need to focus on its future role within the European Union. This needs to be more clearly defined, whether or not it has in the past exceeded its constitutional role.

One main area of complaint is that the European Court introduced the doctrine of direct effect as a result of which an individual can sue for damages against a nation state which has failed to implement a European directive or regulation. This jurisdiction has been developed because the court felt individuals should have the right to redress when member states breached Community law. In view of the provisions of the Treaty of Rome, it would have been surprising if the court had refused to act.

In the same way, in the 1960s and 1970s the English courts developed the doctrine of judicial review to provide a remedy where the Government had exceeded its powers or acted in a way that was manifestly unfair. In 1981 the judge-made law was put in statutory form. Similarly, the time has come for the nature and extent of the remedy under European law to be defined in the Treaty of Union. Article 189 of the treaty should be amended to confirm the obligation of member states to make good damage caused to individuals or companies as a result of regulations and directives which the member state has failed to implement within the time allowed by the directive. In order to recover damages, i) rights must be granted to individuals as a result of the legislation, ii) the contents of the rights must be identified on the basis of the provisions of the directive or regulation and iii) there must be a causal link between the state's obligations and the damage to the individual as a result of which the individual can prove loss or damage. Once the legislation has been implemented the damages will be, as now, a matter for the national courts.

There is a further problem on damages (which applies also to the interpretation of tax legislation in the UK). The treaty should be

amended to provide that damages (including repayment of tax) should be limited to a period no longer than the normal limitation period in a member state.

The present adverse comments about the court may make it difficult to discuss objectively other desirable proposals for reform which would attract substantial support not only in the United Kingdom but in many other European countries. A political mechanism should be provided at Community level through the Council of Ministers to review the court's decisions where they are thought to have gone beyond what the national governments intended. Any changes should not be retrospective but apply to future cases. This could be achieved by a two-stage process. A technical legal committee of the Council of Ministers would review the discussions which led up to the adoption of the particular provisions and would report on whether the court's decision reflected the views of the member states when the legislation was enacted. If it did not reflect the intention of the member states, a simple majority could pass the necessary amendments to the legislation. I would not have an appeal from the Court of Justice to another body, as some have suggested.

Another area which needs to be considered is the question of subsidiarity. All EU legislation should identify whether in accordance with Article 3 (b) of the treaty, a measure is i) exclusively within the competence of the European Union, ii) shared between the Union and the member states or iii) within the exclusive competence of the member states. Where it is not within the competence of the Union, the court should not have jurisdiction except over whether, under the treaty, it is covered by the doctrine of subsidiarity.

A further, wider issue for the member states is whether there are competences, eg, the power to make treaties, human rights, granting of visas which are fundamental and should be constitutionally within the exclusive competence of the nation state.

Other issues relate to the court itself: how it can cope with the increased workload as a result of Maastricht and future accession of new states, whether the judges should be permitted to give dissenting opinions, whether they should have one term of, say, nine years, be permitted to amend their own rules and have power to order a speedy trial in place of interim measures. These important issues need to be debated in an atmosphere divorced from the question of whether or not the judges of the court are exceeding their powers. The debate requires light, not heat.

• The author, European Bar Council (CCBE) president in 1993, is in practice at 3 Verulam Buildings, Grey's Inn, London WC1.



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Controversy continues to dog the Crown Prosecution Service. Here three legal experts analyse what they see as its shortcomings

Bad morale, too dogmatic and low standards

The Crown Prosecution Service was accused in these pages by Neil Addison (Law, April 23) of having an overcentralised, bureaucratic, autocratic management structure, and of lacking a clear sense of purpose.

In response, Graham Duff (Law, April 30) claimed that since 1992, the CPS has been doing a job that was already being done "even better and more efficiently". He described an attitude of openness and helpfulness as "another level of excellence to which the staff aspire". The service, he said, provided "accountability for high quality standards and consistency".

No one who works in the criminal justice system could recognise the CPS from Mr Duff's words. The reality, at least in London, is of an organisation low in morale, high in dogma and with low standards when it comes to the core task of preparing prosecutions. A week, incognito, in any London CPS office or court would demonstrate this to Mr Duff. And anyone who can describe the CPS as an organisation that "makes the best use of the skills and knowledge of its staff" should meet some of the disillusioned and marginalised ones who carry the can for its failings in court.

The real issue raised by the two articles is not a sterile debate over whether the CPS has become more or less centralised. It is about the quality of prosecution in our criminal justice system. Many people, in and outside the CPS, believe this should not be allowed to decline further. What we need is honest, open debate, not propaganda and the concealment of inadequacies through misleading statistics.

Take the figure quoted by Mr Duff for the conviction rate in the Crown Court, said to be 90 per cent. A more meaningful figure is obtained if all guilty pleas are extracted. It then becomes 58 per cent of all contested cases. But both figures have little meaning as performance indicators. The function of the prosecution is not merely to obtain convictions but to present cases where the evidence discloses a realistic prospect of conviction. There are all sorts of reasons why a jury may choose to acquit which would not necessarily make the prosecution at fault.

Another statistic often quoted by the CPS is its low rate of case discontinuance. The suggestion is that cases are so rigorously vetted that unless fresh circumstances arise, they are seldom discontinued.

The reality is very different. A low discontinuance rate can also be achieved simply by refusing to discontinue cases. They may eventually be thrown out by a judge or jury, but the CPS cannot be criticised for this, and a wholly misleading figure emerges. A more sophisticated barometer of performance is required.

What does all this mean for the criminal justice system? One of the most important qualities required by a prosecutor is confidence, a quality the CPS lacks. This is because a criminal trial is not a straightforward contest between prosecution and defence. The prosecution, with the resources of the State at its disposal, has a duty to do justice. That includes taking account of the interests of the defendant. There are many decisions relating to disclosure, charging and admissibility of evidence which a prosecutor has to take, and which involve wider considerations than how best to obtain a conviction.

So at the heart of prosecuting is potential for conflict. This comes from the pressure to obtain a conviction, from the police, victims or personal feelings about a case and from the duty to be objective and open. But this is what can make prosecuting such a rewarding and challenging occupation. When not resolved, however, this conflict has led to the

miscarriage cases that have so damaged the criminal justice system.

Given this role, the one thing the prosecutor can be sure of is that he or she will make mistakes and be unpopular. But if taken competently and for good reasons, those decisions will be justifiable.

But no prosecutor with one eye on the

statistics, one on the latest policy change and both on covering his own back is in a position to take the hard decisions that prosecuting requires. His motivation is more likely to be covering up failings of the CPS than the pursuit of excellence.

A high quality prosecution service could present cases more effectively. It could

also better protect the innocent by ensuring that no one is convicted by reason of emotional pressure, prejudice or ignorance of all the facts.

DAVID JEREMY

• The author is a barrister who conducts Crown Court cases for the CPS.

shift can be seen towards fudging these respective roles.

We have a situation in which Crown prosecutors can set up shop at police stations. How, then, can the lawyer retain the detachment from the police necessary for an independent review of the cases brought by that police station? I agree that officers would benefit from legal advice, but that can be achieved by retaining private practice lawyers.

In my last year, morale was low and experienced lawyers were leaned on by management to spend time dealing with administration and budgetary matters instead of on case work. The more senior you become, the less contact you have with legal matters. This trend has to be reversed. There is huge pressure to conform and obey. Some staff still

render excellent service. But for how long? The last appraisal report by my boss contained a line that says much about the future: "Chuck is learning there is a difference between the independent advocate and the Crown prosecutor." I was not able to seek clarification on this, but it was offered as evidence of my inadequacy.

There are courageous members of staff who have weathered the storm and are trying to make sense of what is regrettably an unattractive job. This is certainly no time for self-congratulatory gestures about the achievements of the service.

CHUCK NDUKA-ZE

• The author is a practising barrister and an attorney in California.

Time to arrest the worrying decline

I READ Graham Duff's recent article with regret because it highlights the inability of the CPS management to look at itself critically and to address the huge concerns expressed by its lawyers and, ultimately, by the public at the receiving end of its inadequacies. It is almost trite to say the CPS is held in low regard by those who appreciate what a prosecution service should be.

The service was set up with limitations, including the fact that Crown prosecutors have no rights of audience in the higher courts, being restricted to magistrates courts. Experienced lawyers cannot, therefore, be attracted because their career prospects are limited. As a result, there were problems in recruiting the right calibre of lawyer. The CPS resorted to training members of its own

staff to qualify as lawyers, with — in my view — indifferent results.

Over time, some of these lawyers have risen to positions of prominence in the organisation. Any reform that fails to tackle this will not begin to address the service's fundamental defects or arrest its lack of vision.

It is no answer to cite statistics about numbers of cases prosecuted. The issue cannot be whether the CPS successfully prosecuted 1.4 million cases a year, but how well these cases are prepared and whether the public has grounds for confidence that the job is in good hands. The original idea of separating investigation and prosecution of crime was excellent. If sufficient regard had been paid to it over the years, confidence might not have been so eroded. Now, however, a

shift can be seen towards fudging these respective roles.

We have a situation in which Crown prosecutors can set up shop at police stations. How, then, can the lawyer retain the detachment from the police necessary for an independent review of the cases brought by that police station?

I agree that officers would benefit from legal advice, but that can be achieved by retaining private practice lawyers.

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• The author is a practising barrister and an attorney in California.

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You need a special talent

I FOUND Graham Duff's "defence" to against Neil Addison's article to be pure propaganda — much of it out of touch with reality.

I should like to speak up, in a personal capacity, on behalf of the victim of crime — who has hardly had a mention so far.

Prosecuting crime requires a particular talent. The prosecutor has to be relentless, yet scrupulously fair. This quality of prosecuting cannot be bought or manufactured: it was possessed by the present Director of the CPS, Barbara Mills, QC, who appeared before me many times in Court 15 at the Old Bailey where I sat for 18 years. The need to be fair extends not only to the criminal but also the victim — and, as Mr Addison argued, to the general public.

Under Mrs Mills, however, the service has become over-bureaucratised, and is guilty of appalling delays and an excessive amount of plea-bargaining. Before the CPS, most prosecutions were conducted by the local police. The system was not perfect but it was quick, cheap and very effective. In the CPS's ten years, police officers have aged, been promoted or left the service. Hardly any officer below the superintendent rank has experience of conducting a prosecution. More than 90 per cent of all crime is tried in the magistrates' court, so why not return most of the criminal work in magistrates' courts to the police while they still have sufficient expertise and experience to undertake this crucial task?

As an active member of Victim Support, I am only too aware of how, in practice, the victim of crime is ignored. Recently an old woman — whose beautiful home had been burgled — asked me to accompany her to court for the hearing because she was nervous and without experience of such an event. To her astonishment, and mine, the case was prosecuted by another team of the CPS — not the team which agreed that the victim and I should attend court.

To make matters worse, the victim's name and address were published in the local newspapers, thus virtually ensuring that her house would again be burgled.

The CPS is not well paid and does not necessarily attract the best people. The resources saved by restricting its work to the more important Crown Court work should be switched to the police, who are undermanned and whose morale is generally low.

MICHAEL ARGYLE

• His Honour Michael Argyle was a Central Criminal Court Judge from 1970 to 1988.

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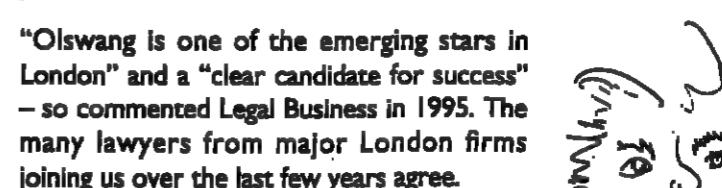
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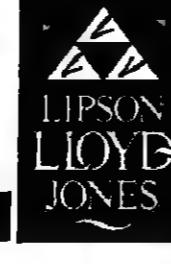
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No power to make interim order

In re G (a Minor) (Adoption: Freezing order)

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Saville and Mr Justice Douglas Brown (Judgment June 5)

When exercising its discretion under section 20 of the Adoption Act 1976, as amended by Schedule 10 to the Children Act 1989, to revoke an order freezing a child for adoption, the court had no jurisdiction to make an interim care order in favour of the local authority if it decided to revoke the freezing order.

The Court of Appeal so held, when, inter alia, dismissing the appeal of a mother against a refusal by Judge William QC, sitting in Barnstaple County Court to revoke a freezing order.

Ms Sarah Forster for the mother; Mr Mark Evans, QC and Miss Helen Griffiths for the local authority; Mr James Munby, QC and Mr Steven Jones for the guardian ad litem; Mr and Mrs H in person.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that the criteria for making a freezing order in the case of the child were clearly met when the order was made in November 1993. If, however, the freezing application had been made at the time that the judge heard the revocation application, in October 1995, it seemed clear that those

criteria would not have been met. The child was no longer placed for adoption and there was no immediate prospect of placing him.

It, therefore, the criteria for revocation were similar to those criteria required for the making of the freezing order that no longer applied and the basis of the original order had been undermined. However, the requirements of section 18, under which an order declaring a child free for adoption was made, and section 20, under which such an order could be revoked, were entirely different.

Unlike the mandatory requirement to make the order under section 18 if the criteria were not met, section 20 was discretionary. But the court was limited in the exercise of its discretion. It was given two choices either to revoke the freezing order or to refuse the application. If the order was revoked, the parent's resumption of parental responsibility was unfeigned.

The local authority could only resume any form of statutory control under Part IV of the 1989 Act by beginning again the public law process. Consequently, if the order was revoked there was nothing in the Adoption Act to prevent the return of the child immediately to the parent who had resumed parental responsibility. Such a result was clearly, from

the wording of the statute, deliberate.

The only other order which the court could make was to refuse the application. In that case the former parent lost even the residual rights which were conferred by section 19 and 20 to receive progress reports or the right to make any further application to revoke without leave.

The case of a child righted for adoption who subsequently became unlikely to be adopted but could not be rehabilitated with his family did not appear to be directly within the contemplation of those who drafted the section and it would seem that there was a lacuna.

Miss Forster had urged the court to revoke the order and invoke the provisions of the Children Act to fill the gap by inviting the local authority to apply for an interim care order. However, such a course ran counter to the express purpose of the section.

Although the position of the child in a suit of adoption limb potential for the rest of his childhood appeared odd, Parliament had had the opportunity in passing the Children Act to make amendments to the Adoption Act which it did, including amendments to section 20. The philosophy behind section 20 remained the rejection of public law interven-

tion to him by instalments in 1991 and 1992, the delay in payment arising from a dispute as to the owner's right to the supplement. If interest was payable the amount was payable.

It was common ground that there was no specific statutory provision that the owner-occupier supplement carried interest.

It was also common ground that some payment for the benefit of persons displaced from land, such as home loss payments under section 29 of the Land Compensation Act 1973, did not attract interest.

Counsel for the defendants submitted that throughout the statutory scheme a distinction was maintained between "compensation" and "payments", such as those in Schedule 5. Interest was payable only on compensation which was a term of art covering payments for the acquisition of interests in land.

The entitlement to interest on compensation arose from section 11(1) of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965, applied to general vesting declaration cases such as the present one by section 10(1) of the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981. Any compensation "agreed or awarded" would carry interest. Counsel for the applicant submitted that the owner-occupier sup-

plemented the "payment" to

the expression "dealt with as if it were such compensation."

The entitlement to interest on compensation arose from section 11(1) of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965, applied to general vesting declaration cases such as the present one by section 10(1) of the Compulsory Purchase (Vesting Declarations) Act 1981. Any compensation "agreed or awarded" would carry interest. Counsel for the applicant submitted that the owner-occupier sup-

plemented the "payment" to

the expression "dealt with as if it were such compensation."

The expression "dealt with as if it were such compensation" was intended to confer jurisdiction on the Lands Tribunal and to permit the use of Lands Tribunal procedures such as payments into court and enforcement. If Parliament had intended the "payment" to

be dealt with as if it were such compensation.

Lord Justice Evans delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Beldam agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Akermans, Worthing; Mr John W. G. MacGregor, Bolton.

LORD JUSTICE PILL said that the relevant compulsory purchase order was confirmed by the secretary of state on March 11, 1985. The applicant was entitled to the owner-occupier supplement on giving vacant possession on November 28, 1985 and it was paid

Entitlement to interest on supplement

Shaikh v Bolton Metropolitan District Council

Before Lord Justice Beldam, Lord Justice Evans and Lord Justice Pill (Judgment May 24)

An owner-occupier whose land was compulsorily purchased was entitled to interest on the supplement paid to him under section 68 and Schedule 5 to the Housing Act 1990.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Mr Mohammed Latif Shaikh from a decision of Mr Recorder Morris, QC, at Bolton County Court on March 31, 1995 that interest was not payable by the defendants. Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council.

Mr Anthony Elleray, QC and Mr Richard Quenby for the applicant; Mr Stephen Sauvain, QC and Mr Alan Evans for the council.

LORD JUSTICE PILL said that the relevant compulsory purchase order was confirmed by the secretary of state on March 11, 1985. The applicant was entitled to the owner-occupier supplement on giving vacant possession on November 28, 1985 and it was paid

to him by instalments in 1991 and 1992, the delay in payment arising from a dispute as to the owner's right to the supplement. If interest was payable the amount was payable.

It was common ground that there was no specific statutory provision that the owner-occupier supplement carried interest.

It was also common ground that some payment for the benefit of persons displaced from land, such as home loss payments under section 29 of the Land Compensation Act 1973, did not attract interest.

Counsel for the defendants submitted that throughout the statutory scheme a distinction was maintained between "compensation" and "payments", such as those in Schedule 5. Interest was payable only on compensation which was a term of art covering payments for the acquisition of interests in land.

Interest was payable on compensation agreed or awarded and the requirement to deal with owner-occupier supplement as if it were compensation, generally expressed as it was, included a requirement to pay interest on the supplement.

Lord Justice Evans delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Justice Beldam agreed with both judgments.

Solicitors: Akermans, Worthing; Mr John W. G. MacGregor, Bolton.

Relying on successor as pay comparator

Diocese of Hallam Trustee v Connaughton

Before Mr Justice Holland, Mr J. Crosby and Mr D. A. Lamber (Judgment May 21)

An industrial tribunal had jurisdiction to hear a claim for equal pay under article 19 of the EC Treaty when an applicant relied on a comparator appointed after her resignation.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal so held when dismissing an appeal by the Diocese of Hallam Trustee from a decision of a Sheffield industrial tribunal which found last September on a preliminary issue of law that it had jurisdiction to hear an equal pay claim by the applicant. Miss Josephine Connaughton.

The appeal was on the ground that the tribunal had erred in law in finding that the applicant was

entitled to rely on a comparator who had succeeded to her post as director of music.

Article 19 provides: "Each member state shall ... subsequently maintain the application of the principle that men and women should receive equal pay for equal work."

Miss Alison Hampon for the diocese argued that Miss Dimah Rose for Miss Connaughton.

Mr JUSTICE HOLLAND said that the applicant was the first holder of the post of director of music. In April 1994 she gave notice of termination of her employment. Her salary was then £11,138 a year. Her successor, a man, was appointed at £20,000.

The applicant could not invoke a comparison as was required by the Equal Pay Act 1970, as amended by the Sex Discrimination Act 1985.

The next issue was the question

as to the substantive law that the tribunal should apply to the facts. Vital assistance had been given by the Commercial Court of Justice in *Case No 1297/91 McCarron Ltd v Smith* [1980] 1 C.R. 673 where they ruled that the principle of equal pay for equal work was not confined to situations of contemporaneous employment.

The analysis of article 19 in that case satisfied the appeal tribunal that the scope of that article was such as to allow the applicant to advance a case to the effect that the male successor's contract was so proximate to her own as to render him an effective comparator.

The appeal would be dismissed and the case remitted to an industrial tribunal.

Solicitors: Benson Burden, Flint & Co, Sheffield; Pinson Curtis, Leeds.

The next issue was the question

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Law Report June 11 1996

No power to make interim order

Regina v Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council, Ex parte Waters Before Mr Justice Dyson

Judgment May 24

A council was not obliged to place all applicants falling within section 22 of the Housing Act 1985 somewhere in its housing waiting list.

Mr Justice Dyson so stated in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application for judicial review by Mrs Helen Waters of the Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council made initially on March 28, 1995 and by the council's housing appeals panel on March 14, 1996 to permit her to enter the waiting list for accommodation.

The question of whether that policy was lawful or whether it contravened section 22 of the 1985 Act raised issues of general importance as to the true meaning of that section.

Mr Gallivan submitted that the council's two weeks rent arrears policy in relation to the allocation of housing, applied both to current and former council tenants.

The substance of the policy was that such tenants would not be eligible for council housing unless (a) they had a social or medical need of 60 points in one single category; (b) they had made substantial efforts to reduce the arrears of rent, or (c) there were other exceptional circumstances.

The question of whether that policy was lawful or whether it contravened section 22 of the 1985 Act raised issues of general importance as to the true meaning of that section.

Mr Gallivan submitted that the policy gave no preference to persons in the position of the applicant and her family at all. He accepted that it was open to the council to take the rent arrears into account, but argued that the obligation to give reasonable preference to the applicant demanded a scheme such as one whereby the applicant would be placed on the waiting list with plus X points on account of qualifying under section 22(a), (b) and (c), but with minus Y points on account of the arrears of rent. By failing to place them on the list at all, the council must have been in breach of section 22.

His Lordship could not accept that argument. It would have been open to the council, if it thought fit, to operate a scheme along those lines, but in his Lordship's view, it was not obliged to do so. The only reasonable way to give reasonable preference to persons falling within section 22(a), (b) and (c).

In his Lordship's judgment, the council's policy was calculated, in establishing the criteria to be applied by the panel, the council

had been obliged to section 22 in regard.

It was important, however, also to emphasise that the council was under a statutory obligation to give reasonable preference to persons within section 22 who were bad tenants, than to persons within that section who were good tenants. The obligation was only to give a reasonable preference. That connoted the possibility that a tenant might be so bad that it was not reasonable to give any preference at all.

Mr Gallivan submitted that the council had also decided, that even those tenants owing arrears who had not made substantial efforts to reduce them should be allocated housing if they had a substantial social or medical need or if other exceptional circumstances existed. That was a perfectly reasonable response to the statutory obligation imposed by section 22.

His Lordship rejected the submission that the council had obliged the council to place all applicants falling within section 22 somewhere on the housing list, even though the result of the application of a sophisticated points system would mean that an applicant might always remain at the bottom of the list and might never be rehoused.

His Lordship concluded, therefore, that the policy adopted in relation to council tenants with more than two weeks arrears of rent was lawful.

Solicitors: Roskell Davies & Co, Birmingham; Sharpe Prichard for Mr Richard Roberts, Wolverhampton.

MR JUSTICE DYSON said that

it was entitled to decide that it was reasonable to give less preference to persons within section 22 who were bad tenants, than to persons within that section who were good tenants. The obligation was only to give a reasonable preference.

The crucial question was whether the fact that there was a right of appeal in rent arrears cases, where there was a social or

No duty to put applicant on list

Regina v Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council, Ex parte Waters Before Mr Justice Dyson

Judgment May 24

A council was not obliged to place all applicants falling within section 22 of the Housing Act 1985 somewhere in its housing waiting list.

Mr Justice Dyson so stated in a reserved judgment in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing an application for judicial review by Mrs Helen Waters of the Wolverhampton Metropolitan Borough Council made initially on March 28, 1995 and by the council's housing appeals panel on March 14, 1996 to permit her to enter the waiting list for accommodation.

The question of whether that policy was lawful or whether it contravened section 22 of the 1985 Act raised issues of general importance as to the true meaning of that section.

Mr Gallivan submitted that the

policy gave no preference to persons in the position of the applicant and her family at all. He accepted that it was open to the council to take the rent arrears into account, but argued that the obligation to give reasonable preference to the applicant demanded a scheme such as one whereby the applicant would be placed on the waiting list with plus X points on account of qualifying under section 22(a), (b) and (c), but with minus Y points on account of the arrears of rent. By failing to place them on the list at all, the council must have been in breach of section 22.

His Lordship could not accept that argument. It would have been open to the council, if it thought fit, to operate a scheme along those lines, but in his Lordship's view, it was not obliged to do so. The only reasonable way to give reasonable preference to persons falling within section 22(a), (b) and (c).

In his Lordship's judgment, the council's policy was calculated, in establishing the criteria to be applied by the panel, the council

had been obliged to section 22 in regard.

It was important, however, also to emphasise that the council was under a statutory obligation to give reasonable preference to persons within section 22 who were bad tenants, than to persons within that section who were good tenants. The obligation was only to give a reasonable preference.

The crucial question was whether the fact that there was a right of appeal in rent arrears cases, where there was a social or

medical need of 60 points in one single category and/or there were other exceptional circumstances, was sufficient to make the policy comply with section 22.

Mr Gallivan submitted that the

policy gave no preference to persons in the position of the applicant



■ FILM

Golden sounds from the silver screen: why the music of cinema is now big business



■ MUSIC 1

A new virtuoso showpiece from Hans Werner Henze at the opening weekend of the Aldeburgh Festival



■ MUSIC 2

The Guildhall students give a fine performance of Donizetti's early opera *Linda di Chamounix*



■ TOMORROW

How Shared Experience is adapting Tolstoy's epic *War and Peace* for the National Theatre

Read the book, saw the film, bought the music

As the Royal Academy of Music prepares to mount a film-music festival, Michael Church reports on the growth of interest in classic soundtracks

When the Chekhov-inspired *August* is released this August — starring Anthony Hopkins, directed by Anthony Hopkins — an accompanying CD will be released. Composer? A. Hopkins, with a certain A. Hopkins at the piano. It is a quietly accomplished piece of pianism, backed by an orgy of strings. If the texture feels familiar, that's because it is: the orchestration is by George Fenton — composer for everything from *Gandhi* and *Jewel in the Crown* to *Memphis Belle* and *Shadowlands* — and it exudes that wistful, wallpaper sweetness which is the obligatory mode for straw-boater sagas.

But the CD will sell. Not the way soundtracks are currently selling for *Twister* or *Mission: Impossible*, but well nonetheless. In its way, it is a perfect product, and there is an awful lot of product swelling around the soundtrack market at present.

Wander round a big store, though, and you will be struck by the sheer longevity of much else that you see. *Trainspotting* — with songs by Britpop's brightest and best — may temporarily dominate the racks, but there are permanent sections devoted to figures like Franz Waxman (*Sunset Boulevard*), Ennio Morricone (*The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*, *A Fistful of Dollars*), and the granddaddy of them all, Bernard Herrmann (*Citizen Kane*, *Vertigo*, *Cape Fear*, *Taxi Driver*).

If new Herrmann compilations are appearing every year, so are fresh packagings of classic French scores. Two CDs of Georges

Auric's magical music for Cocteau's *La Belle et la Bête* have recently been released: one with the original soundtrack complete with dialogue and noises off, the other a superb new recording by the Moscow Symphony Orchestra.

Barnaby Edwards, presiding over the soundtrack department at Tower Records' Piccadilly branch,

• The young are crazy about the soundtracks of Sixties films •

notes no slackening of interest in cinema's golden age. EMI has just acquired the rights to a huge stash of Forties and Fifties classics — this month it is releasing the soundtrack to *Singin' in the Rain* — and Tower is selling these by the lorry-load. Composers like Jerry Goldsmith (*Star Trek*), John Barry (the James Bond films), and John Williams (Spielberg's resident musician) each have their rock-solid following.

But the big bucks, says Edwards, are at the heavy-promotion end of the spectrum. *Pulp Fiction*, with tracks by Dusty Springfield and Chuck Berry, was his bestseller for the whole of last year. CDs bearing the rubric "songs from and inspired by" are the ones that make the running: these are essentially vehicles for singers with nothing to do with the film in question, but who would otherwise blush unseen.

Only six shops in the world specialise exclusively in soundtracks: 58 Dean St Records, which

has just renamed itself Rare Discs after a move to bigger premises, is one of these, and is the nearest thing to a club-house in this intense little universe. Two Belgian girls I find there are methodically noting down every item in the "film musicals" rack for a friend in Brussels. A burly regular, who has dropped in for his weekly chat, is a

specialist with a copy of every score that composer has written. What price would he pay for a rarity he did not have? "Oh, up to £200."

But most of the records here are LPs. "These days everyone's crazy about vinyl," says the manager, Martin Masheter. "The young are as

crazy about the Sixties as we were about the Thirties. For example, they're screaming for anything by Lalo Schifrin." He points to an LP of Michel Legrand's score for *Never Say Never Again*. "A rare Japanese disc — £60. The people who collect James Bond must have it in vinyl."

Masheter's predecessor in this job is a film-buff who has gone on to create one of the most interesting labels in the business. James Fitzpatrick set up Silva Screen ten years ago to import soundtracks and found himself launched almost by accident, when he and his co-owner took a chance on the score of an unknown film which nobody else wanted to handle: *Crocodile Dundee*. His present business is

predicated on two key notions: that the main profits accrue to copyright owners, who can license their soundtracks to advertisers; and that the cheapest orchestral players can be found in Eastern Europe. "But it's not just cheapness, it's also that they're more suited to the work," he says. "Musicians in Prague still play with the rich string vibrato which people like Dmitri Tymkin expected. You can't get that in London now." He has assembled his own orchestra in Prague, and makes dozens of recordings each year.

His policy of "sub-licensing" pays rich dividends: his recording of Maurice Jarre's theme for *Lawrence of Arabia* currently underscores television ads for an under-arm deodorant. And he keeps a careful balance between music that pays the rent, and music he believes in: *The Greatest Themes from the Films of Arnold Schwarzenegger* bankroll *The Epic Film Music of Miklos Rozsa*.

"Major companies are always offering to buy us out," he says with a happy smile. "But we enjoy what we are doing. It's a hobby."

This month the Royal Academy of Music is holding a British and American film music festival, with guest appearances by John Williams, Richard Rodney Bennett, and the inevitable Michael Nyman. "Our students need to learn that this really is a separate art," says the festival's organiser. Bernard Herrmann can sleep peacefully: his legacy is in good hands.

• The festival at the Royal Academy of Music, Marylebone Road, London NW1, runs from Sunday to June 23 (0171-573 7343)



I'm happy again: the soundtrack to *Singin' in the Rain*, with Gene Kelly, is reissued this month



DONALD COOPER

Philip O'Brien, Michael Dewis and Emer McGillivray take the lead roles in a faultless student production

Lechery done with lyric grace

OPERA
Linda di Chamounix
Guildhall School

THIS was Donizetti's first commission for Vienna, in 1842. He was chasing a permanent post there and was out to impress — the score is composed with great care, miles from the potboilers that legend has accused him of churning out. He also took Viennese tastes into account with an elaborate sonata-form overture, much alpine local colour, and freedom of form:arias turn into duets or ensembles, and run-tum cabalenas are notable by their absence, and the finales are unconventional. It's a perfectly crafted little opera.

The reason it has not joined the repertory is the perhaps over-naïve libretto, in which Daisy Ashford herself must surely have had a hand. Linda's poor but honest parents send her to Paris with a group of immigrant workers to save her from the attentions of the lecherous local aristocrat — a buffo role, this being an *opera semi-seria*. Once there, she is set up in a "rather sumptuous" apartment by the aristocrat's rich but honest nephew (tenor), complete with costly jewels.

But she preserves her honour (she does not in the source play), a fact that her father, her faithful travesti-mezzo swain and — frankly — the audience find hard to believe. Bawled out by her father for being a scarlet woman, she goes mad, and regains her sanity just in time for wedding bells and the final curtain back in Chamounix.

But Donizetti believed in it, and so does the GSMD production team: this is one of the best student performances I have seen. The director Stephen Medcalf takes all aspects at face value and makes them work. His production is quite faultless. The designs by Francis O'Connor (sets) and Sarah Blenkinsop (costumes) are ravishing. Clive Timms conducts with understanding and affection, though his band doesn't always disguise the fact that the simpler the music, the harder it is to play well.

Of course not all the voices

are yet fully-fledged, but Sandra Zeitzer's most certainly is: she sang Linda on Thursday with astonishing assurance and technical ease. In the travesti role, Jane Stevenson adds clear and meaningful diction to her plummy mezzo. Michael Dewis (father) has a voluminous baritone that should

develop spectacularly, and Wynne Evans sang the tenor role with due sensitivity. The buffo lecher must be the hardest assignment for a young singer, but you wouldn't guess it from Philip O'Brien's witty performance.

This *Linda* is an exceptional success: tomorrow's repeat performance, with some cast changes, is earnestly recommended.

RODNEY MILNES

AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES READER OFFER
Take a friend to an open air event for 30p



Today The Times offers you the chance to take a friend to a series of theatre performances and concerts in the open air — for only 30p. You can choose from more than 70 events at 33 venues across the UK.

Magnificent settings include Euston Park at Thetford, Norfolk, Weston Park, Shropshire and Petworth Park, Sussex. You can enjoy performances in historic castles at Arundel and Warwick, in the splendid surroundings of Peterborough Cathedral or the intimate setting of Thaxted Church, Essex. At most events you can take a picnic and enjoy classical music or jazz, opera or Shakespeare. Many have as their finale a spectacular firework display and at some you will be expected to join in the spirit of the evening by wearing fancy dress.

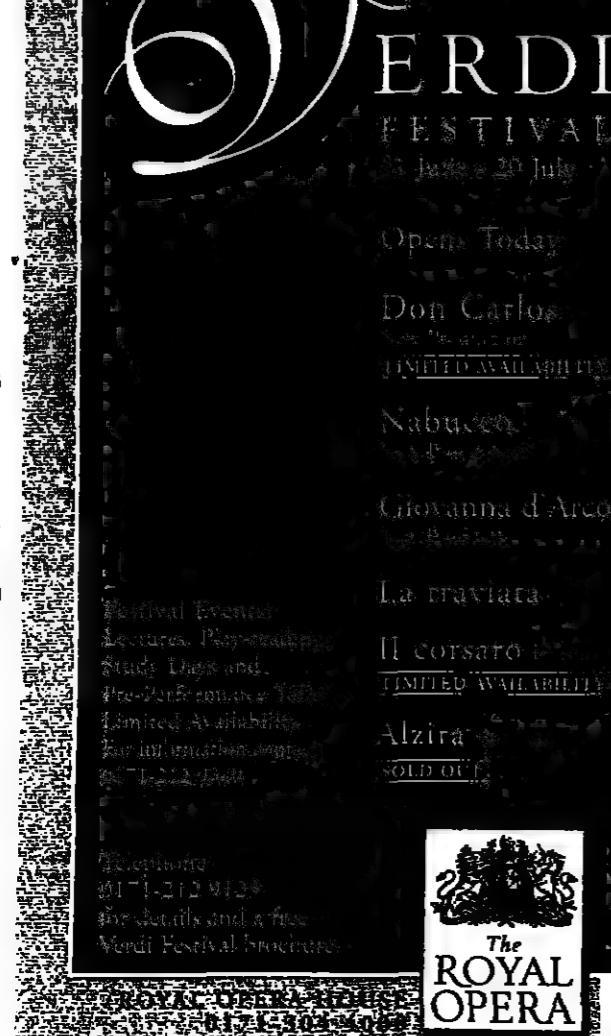
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Choose an event from the list of participating venues which were published on Saturday and Monday, and reserve your tickets quoting The Times offer. When you buy one ticket at the full price you will receive a second for just 30p. Your tokens cannot be issued until tickets have been received. The offer is limited to one 30p performance per household.

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30p CONCERT
TOKEN 3



Rodney Milnes finds the 49th Aldeburgh Festival as reassuring as ever

Old friends and new joys

I n a rapidly changing world it is rather reassuring to revisit the Aldeburgh Festival after an interval of 23 years and find that everything is exactly the same. The red and river-scape around the blessedly unrestored Snape Maltings complex, of course, and the sheer cosiness of Aldeburgh itself — the late 20th century seems to have hitched up its skirts and passed quietly by.

And the informed audience, I swear, is just as it was: they come faithfully year after year, they chitter as animatedly as advancing years permit and they even talk to critics. "I shall be very interested to read what you say about that," sounded a bit like a challenge. So here goes.

Margaret Price gamely launched the 49th festival on Saturday morning with a recital of Wolf and Strauss. Eleven in the morning is not the kindest hour at which to expect someone who is no longer a teenager to jack the voice up to its brightest pitch; let us suggest that the piano had been tuned unhelpfully high for the first half, and leave it at that.

But the pearly beauty of

Price's tone, the way she slots words into perfectly moulded musical lines, the subtlety of her interpretations are among the wonders of the age. Few can have heard Strauss's *Morgen* sung with more inward poise, or Wolf's *Kennst du das Land* with greater sense of longing and despair. Thomas Dewey's accompaniments were as incisive as they were supportive.

New music, lest anyone forget, has always been the main attraction of Aldeburgh, preferably played in the presence of those who have composed it. Both were in evidence at the BBC Symphony Orchestra's well-planned Saturday evening concert. Juxtaposing Hans Werner Henze and Busoni was extremely canny, and not just because of the crucial Italian dimension. The latter's *Nocturne Symphonique* is connected with his opera *Doctor Faust*, just as

Henze's new *Appassionata* is drawn from *Das Verraten Meier*, the *Salon* or *Mishima's novel*. The *Salon* or *Fell from Grace with the Sea*.

Appassionata has been aptly described as Henze's *Four Sea Interludes*; there are doubtless unconscious tributes to Britten's *Peter Grimes* and Oriental colouring is minimal; it's an invigorating virtuoso showpiece for full orchestra lasting barely ten minutes, at least as conducted with characteristic ebullience by Oliver Knussen.

It was balanced by Colin Mathews's *M50*, an equally invigorating birthday card in sound for his brother David lasting a mere four minutes, and to balance the Busoni there was Henze's early *Five Neapolitan Songs*, reeking with Mediterranean air and robustly sung by Alan Opie.

There have been mutter-

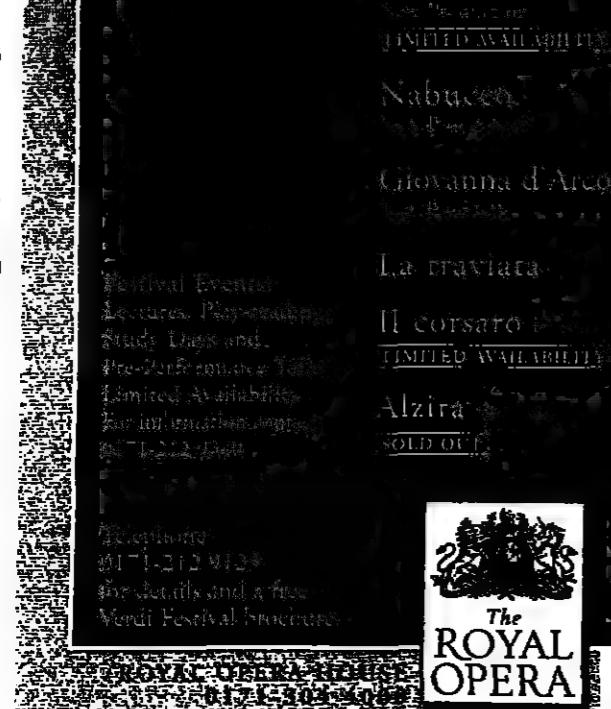
ings about the absence of fully staged opera at Aldeburgh in recent years; in the old days there was a steady supply of new Britten pieces, plus some that he solicited from other composers, but there has been no Bayreuth-style preservation or renewal of the canon. Mutterings were largely silenced by Sunday's superbly cast concert performance of *The Rape of Lucretia*.

Once almost as poor a relation as *Owen Wingrave*, this early work is now coming up on the inside: it is as profoundly unsettling as *Budd* or *the Screw*. Jean Rigby has made the title role very much her own, and her body language alone made this much more than just a concert.

Thomas Allen's baleful

Tarquinius exerted equal dramatic power, and Anthony Rolfe Johnson caught the Male Chorus's equivocal role in proceedings with disturbing vividness, half reproving, half relishing the central act. Steuart Bedford's measured, perfectly paced conducting set the seal on an unforgettable performance.

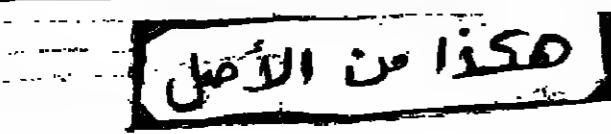
RODNEY MILNES



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RODNEY MILNES



RACING: CHANNEL 4 REPORTS 40 PER CENT DROP IN TELEVISION AUDIENCE FOR PREMIER CLASSIC

Derby fails to attract armchair viewers

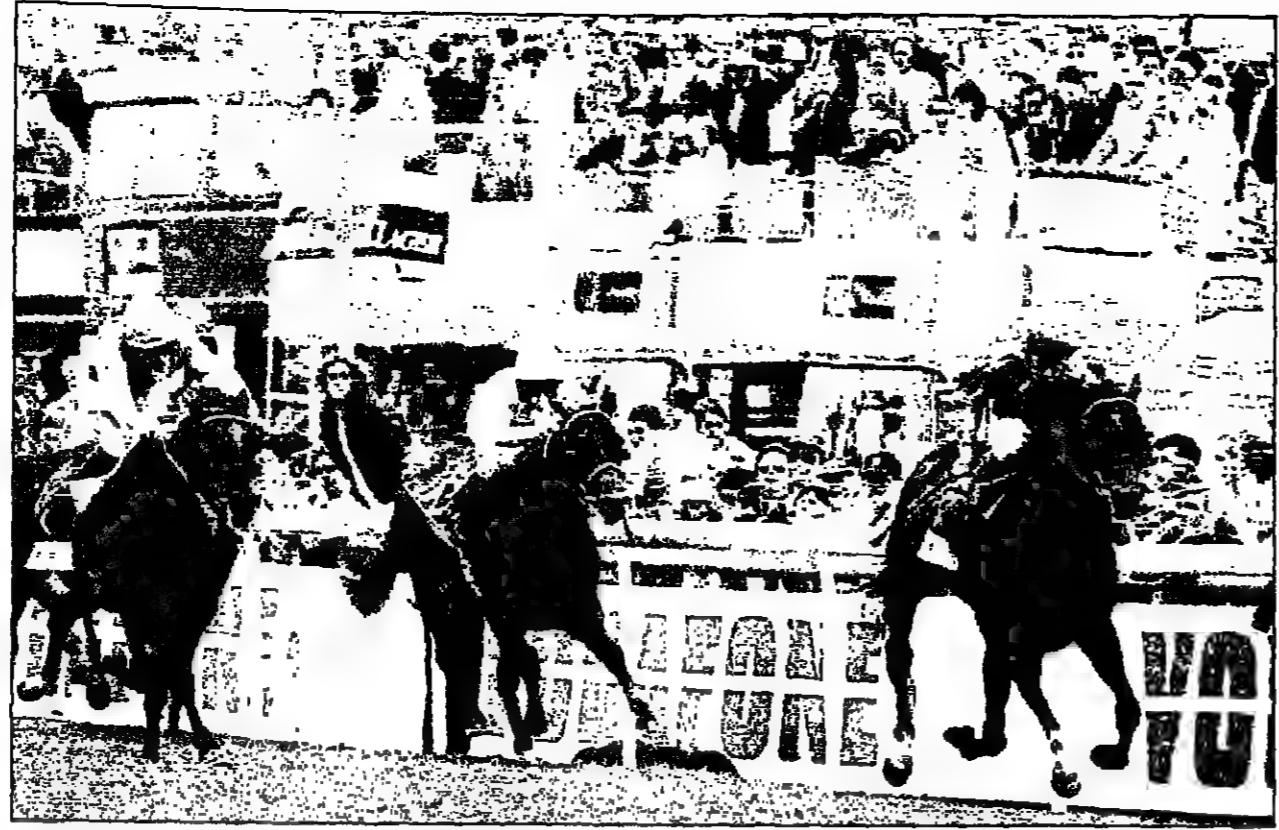
By JULIAN MUSCAT

THE Derby's television audience slumped almost 40 per cent on last year after 2.5 million viewers watched Channel 4 Racing's live coverage on Saturday. Some four million tuned in to Lamont's Blue Riband triumph 12 months ago.

The steep decline, recorded in the face of competition from Euro 96 and an earlier start time, will nevertheless concern both Vodafone, the race sponsors, and Racecourse Holdings Trust, which owns and manages Epsom racecourse. Edward Gillespie, director of racing at Epsom, described the figures as "disappointing" and "towards the worst of our fears on what might happen this year."

A statement issued on behalf of Channel 4 Racing said: "The race was run on the day that England opened the Euro 96 competition at Wembley, the first time England has hosted a major football competition in 30 years. In addition, the England cricket team were on the verge of winning the first Test against India. We were expecting a drop in viewers and are confident that the viewing figures will return to previously recorded levels in the future."

The 2.5 million estimate represents the peak attracted in a 15-minute period encompassing the running of the



An increased Epsom crowd watched Shaamit's triumph, but the television audience was markedly down

race. The Channel 4 statement came in the wake of informed industry sources putting viewing figures at 2.1 million, which declined to 600,000 in the programme's latter stages. A spokesman at Channel 4 said he was unable to issue

further details because of an electrical malfunction.

The Derby, which attracted 3.9 million viewers when last staged on a Wednesday two years ago, was run this year at the earlier time of 2.25pm. It avoided by 35 minutes a clash

with England's kick-off time. However, the switch failed to prevent viewers deserting the Derby — or punters betting in fewer numbers on the race.

"I think people will watch the race if they have had a bet, so the figures tie in with the

apparent drop in betting turnover," Gillespie said. "We were looking for an audience of between two and five million, but the audience share is a more important figure."

Last year's Derby, which broke with tradition when it

was staged on a Saturday, attracted 38 per cent share of the audience despite competing with the Rugby World Cup and England's fortunes in Test cricket. "We were anticipating a drop this time but it will be disappointing if our audience share declined down to less than 25 per cent," Gillespie said. These figures are not available until next week, but the Derby's share is expected to fall to less than 25 per cent.

Competition for the Saturday television viewer has now become intense. While the attendance at Epsom on Saturday rose by 3.6 per cent, reflecting a better promotional campaign, the drop in viewers will generate significant debate over the ideal day to stage Flat racing's Blue Riband.

The sports purists largely favour a return to Wednesday but the Epsom executive drew enough encouragement from this year's renewal to advance the Saturday cause. Gillespie will now discuss viewing figures with Vodafone.

News of the audience decline comes in the final year of Channel 4 Racing's contract to screen the Derby, which is listed as a national event. Along with satellite interests, the BBC — which broadcast the event jointly with ITV until 1979 — is expected to stake its claim for the contract. In the days of joint coverage, television audiences regularly reached six million.

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright
suggests the best value in the ante-post market

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

	COUPLES	LEADERBOARD	TOTAL
Pivotal	9-1	6-1	10-1
React	13-2	6-1	5-1
Dashing Blue	10-1	5-1	7-1
Pleasing	8-1	9-1	10-1
Honourable	10-1	9-1	5-1
Blessingindisguise	14-1	12-1	10-1
Green Berries	10-1	12-1	14-1
Wildwood Flower	14-1	12-1	12-1
Major Quality	12-1	13-1	12-1
Mallie	14-1	14-1	12-1
Prometry	10-1	14-1	12-1
Ladies	20-1	16-1	14-1
Red Nymph	16-1	14-1	16-1
Warning Time	20-1	16-1	14-1

On an otherwise quiet betting week, William Hill has put up £50,000 to provide punters with a six-horse handicap for three-year-olds at York on Saturday.

The Mark Johnston-trained Green Berries had no luck in running when runner-up to Jerry Curran last week. The pick of his form last season came when second in a Doncaster maiden, where Major Quality, who is now 18th worse off, was three lengths away in third.

The stable continued yesterday that he is an intended target. He sits on any ground, and at 14-1 with Larbrace and the Totem.

RARRIES is tremendous even-way value. Reach heads most lists after finishing a fine third to Branton Abby in a listed race at Newmarket, but there is a good chance that she was flattered there, and she may prove more effective on a stiffer track.

Pivotal would be a major threat if making the line-up, but he is far from certain. He is unbeaten in two starts this season, showing a good turn of foot to collar Albera at Leicester last time. Although the number-up has since been well beaten, he should not be ruled out.

Dashing Blue won over course and distance last October, and may have been unsuited by the cut in the ground when third to Farhana at Haydock last month. He has claims, along with Wildwood Flower, who was unsuited by the drop back to five furlongs when second at Windsor last time.

SALISBURY

THUNDERER

3.30 Old Irish

4.00 Saleemah

4.30 Office Hours

5.00 Premier Night

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.00 SALEEMAH.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.30 Stately Dancer. 4.00 Saleemah.

5.00 CHARLOTTE CORDAY (nap).

GOING: GOOD DRAW: 5F-7F, HIGH NUMBERS BEST TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.00 EDDIE REAVEY MAIDEN FILLIES STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,019; 6) (11 runners)

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Rivalries give semi-finals additional edge

BY ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

THERE was once nothing in domestic cricket to touch the bitterness of rivalry between Lancashire and Yorkshire. Now, though, there is such rancour between Northamptonshire and Warwickshire that the pairings for the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-finals today might have been designed for those who prefer their sport with the spice of confrontation.

There will be a virtual full house at Old Trafford, where Lancashire defend the cup

against a Yorkshire side that has won nothing since they took this competition nine years ago. Early morning queuing is also inevitable at Wantage Road, where only 4,500 can squeeze in for a repeat of the 1995 NatWest Trophy final.

These are two intriguing sides with the recent supremacy of Lancashire in one-day cricket, and Warwickshire, in all the game's forms, being challenged by two clubs inclined to promise far more than they deliver.

This year, however, there are reasons for believing in the

supposed underdogs. Yorkshire have developed into an efficient limited-overs side, the toughening of their approach owing much to the influence of Michael Bevan, their Australian, who played the cool, decisive innings when Yorkshire beat their neighbours by two wickets in the quarter-final of the NatWest last August and has been in wonderful form this season. A late decision must be taken regarding Martyn Moxon, the former Yorkshire captain, who returned after a thumb injury to play on Sunday.

Warwickshire's resources are now severely stretched, with Nick Knight ruled out by a broken finger. Tim Munton unable to shed the plaster on

his broken arm and Gladstone Small struggling with a hamstring strain. Dennis Reeve, however, is fit to return as captain against Northamptonshire and, doubtless, will be milking the psychological potential of the rugginess between these teams.

There is no doubt that the form selection is Northamptonshire, for they have won all 11 of their one-day games this season, ten of them batting second. Curly Ambrose and John Emburey are eager for one more Lord's final before retirement: I believe that they may earn it today.

CRICKET: WARWICKSHIRE MOVE OMINOUSLY INTO FOURTH AS YORKSHIRE DEPOSE KENT AT TOP

Champions' charge accelerates

BY PAT CHIBURN

TAUNTON (final day of four): Warwickshire (22pts) beat Somerset (5) by 99 runs

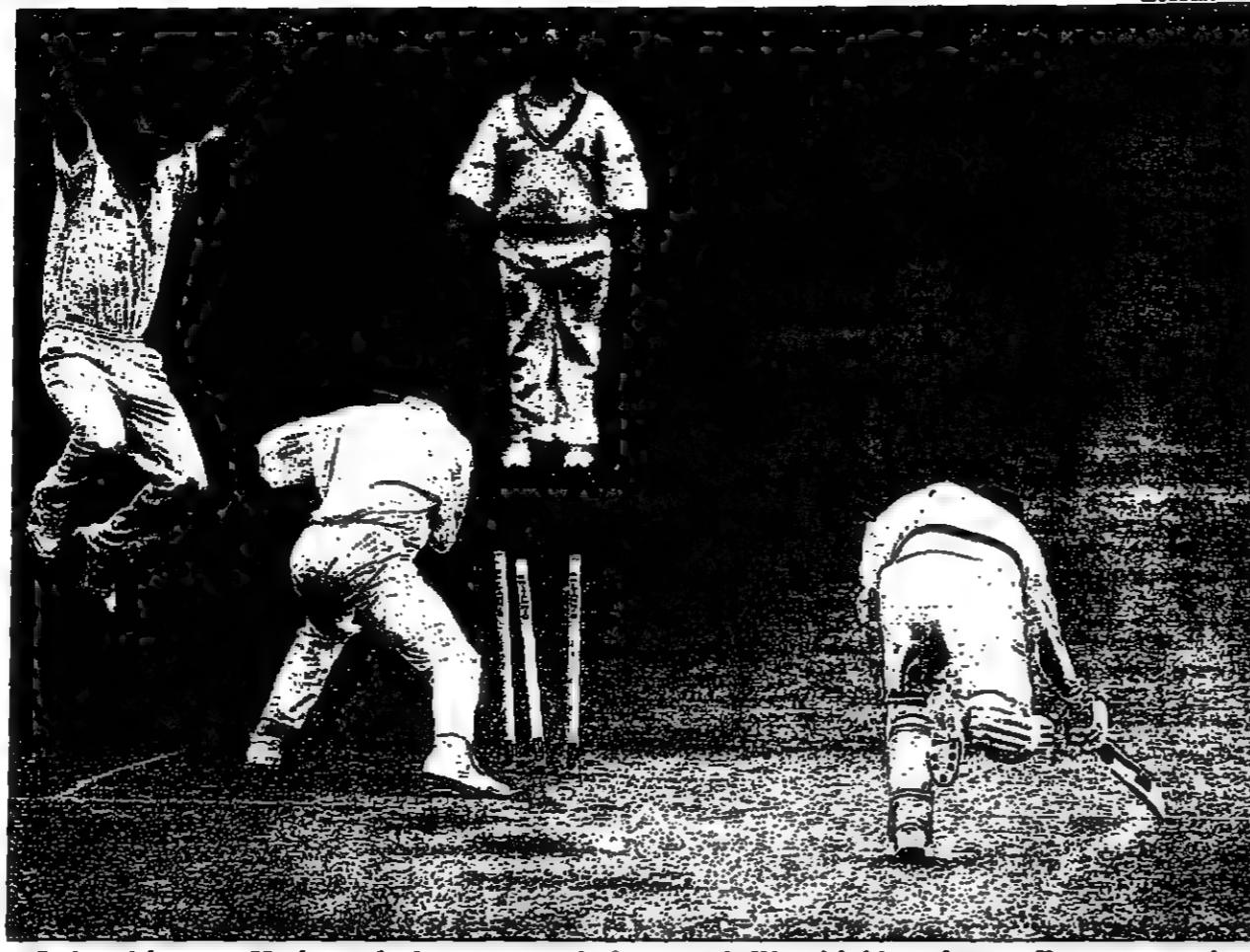
IT IS going to take a good side to prevent Warwickshire from winning the county championship for a third successive year. They proved this yesterday with a convincing victory over Somerset, previously unbeaten and with title aspirations of their own, to move within 11 points of the leaders with a match in hand.

Warwickshire had gone into the game without Reeve, their captain, Knight, their England opening batsman, and Munton and Small, two of their most influential bowlers, yet Moles, the acting captain, handled his limited resources so well that they still had it won before the 16 overs of the last hour.

With Knight now suffering from a cracked finger, which makes him doubtful for the Lord's Test, and Munton (broken wrist) and Small (hamstring) still unfit, only Reeve will be back for the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final at Northampton today and the next championship match against Yorkshire, starting at Headingley on Thursday. Yet none of this will affect Warwickshire's self-belief.

It is the key to their success. They had the worst of a Taunton pitch on which a revitalised Caddick took ten wickets in the match, yet they twice fought their way out of trouble with the bat to leave Somerset needing 321 runs to win with nine wickets in hand at the start of the final day.

Somerset were not without hope, having successfully chased 330 to beat Northamptonshire in their previous



Ostler celebrates as Hayhurst, the Somerset captain, is run out in Warwickshire's victory at Taunton yesterday

match, but they suffered two blows in the first hour and, after that, only a sixth-wicket stand of 96 between Holloway and Lee gave them brief hope.

The first setback came in the third over when Bowler, the kind of batsman that a team can build an innings around, got a first ball from Pollock which cut away to have him caught behind. The second, even more demoralising, occ-

urred ten overs later when Batty forgot that the nightwatchman's duty is to protect the recognised batsmen and allowed Hayhurst to run himself out.

Batty was leg-before soon afterwards to a ball from Smith, which hit him on the toe, and once Trescotch, having driven Giles over the old pavilion, was teased into giving the left-arm spinner a

return catch, it was left to Holloway and Lee to keep the game alive.

Their contrasting styles provided a good test for the Warwickshire spinners, and it was Giles who came out on top. He had reached 61 off 99 balls with seven fours when Giles held one back and he chipped a catch to mid-wicket. Next Holloway moved too far across in an attempt to glance

a ball that hit the top of his leg stump and, after Pollock had returned to tempt Turner into hooking him to long leg, the spinners did the rest.

Moles was understandably jubilant. Several times he had called his players into a huddle to remind them of the value of teamwork and this, allied to that all-important self-belief, yielded his first win in three matches as captain.

On other recent days Gough might have been disheartened to see a catch go down off his fourth ball, but Stump's error at third slip that reprieved Julian only served up to him. Brown, who was hungry for his first big championship score of the season, was enough to put paid to Brown and Benoliac, while Julian and Pearson, his other victims, helplessly prodded the ball to close catchers.

Gough took four of the five remaining wickets to complete a return of five for 36 from 24 overs, during which his line was immaculate and he displayed full control of his celebrated, if sometimes elusive, yorker. It was enough to put paid to Brown and Benoliac, while Julian and Pearson, his other victims, helplessly prodded the ball to close catchers.

That match is at Headingley, where Gough took a career-best seven for 28 against Lancashire in May 1995, since when he had done nothing to approach such destruction until yesterday, having experienced a difficult year, with fitness and rhythm constant worries.

The last Surrey wicket fell to Vaughan, Kersey being leg-before attempting to sweep Vaughan looks and is youthful enough to remember reading boys' adventure stories and in this match he lived out one: two catches, six wickets and 226 runs.

Lancashire, who had a first-innings lead of 177, took the first six Essex wickets for 204, and Ilett had retired hurt with a hand injury. Gooch, Grayson and Law, the centenary-makers of the first day, had gone to Walsall and Hedges Cup semi-final today, to say nothing of a long drive last night, did well to give themselves any hope of victory. There was little in this pitch for any bowler over the four days. Their total of 686, of which Austin and Keedy contributed 91 in a lively stand before lunch for the last wicket, was the third highest in the county's history.

It is six years since Lewis made a century on his first-class debut, giving Essex cause to believe that they had

four sevens had shared 20 overs before Bailey summoned John Emburey, the club coach, to demonstrate that, while he may be 43, thinning on top and thickening down below, he is still the best off-break bowler in England. His action remains classical, his control of flight and line exemplary and, even on a grudging surface, he demanded constant attention.

Tim Robinson was his first victim, caught at short leg as

he stretched forward, and the next ball, the first of a new over from Andy Roberts, saw Paul Pollard dropped by Ambrose at slip. Ambrose was safe enough in pouching Archer off Emburey, who finally removed the obdurate Pollard shortly after tea.

Pollard has been accused of selling his wicket too cheaply and his determination to reform is obvious. He batted through 125 overs for 98 runs in this match, priceless vigilance for his side, if a shade difficult to watch.

Robert's leg spin claimed the final wicket. Johnson being bamboozled on the back foot, but Walker and Cairns survived without anxiety on a pitch still favouring the batsmen. The third Test against India is to be staged here next month and nobody should worry that a fourth-day ticket might be as useless as it was at Edgbaston.

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When Baxter ran rings round Ball



THE THISTLE AND THE ROSE

Kevin McCarra on
the day Scotland
outplayed the
world champions

The rest of the world can keep its summer of love. Scots prefer to associate 1967 with a festival of smugness that will be cherished long after the *Sergeant Pepper* album is at last deleted. The 3-2 victory over England at Wembley, on April 15, turned all of a nation's delusions into truths. For a while at least.

On that night, Scotland had hard evidence to substantiate the conviction that it is a country with a special aptitude for football. England's triumph in the World Cup the previous year had been received badly north of the border, but it did make the notion of defeating Alf Ramsey's team all the more enticing. The visitors to Wembley preferred to treat the 1967 match as if the customs of boxing applied.

England were world champions and the first side to beat them clearly must acquire that title. Scotland's success therefore made Scotland the greatest team on the planet. QED. Does the logic seem faulty? It worked flawlessly in the minds of the supporters who had travelled to London, although their thought processes may have been re-engineered by alcohol.

In those days Scots often seemed to make up the majority of the 100,000 crowd at Wembley. The desire to be present could be measured in the peculiar means of transport that people tolerated. On the road south, it was possible to see a commandered compact mini-van so bulging with men that its back doors had to be tied shut with fraying string.

Others favoured the overnight trains that guaranteed two days without sleep. Shut-eye, however, was hardly a priority, not when there was a great city to be overwhelmed. All manner of boundaries were crossed and hordes split on to the pitch to take pieces of



Baxter was head and shoulders above England at Wembley in 1967. Bremner, No 9, also tormented the hosts. Photograph: Popperfoto

The meeting of England and Scotland on Saturday will be their 108th since their first encounter, a 0-0 draw in Glasgow in 1872. England hold the advantage, having won 43 times to Scotland's 40. There have been 24 draws. The teams have met 28 times at Wembley, the last time in 1988, when England's 1-0 victory gave them their fourteenth win. Scotland have won nine matches at Wembley and five of their meetings there have finished as draws.

turf as souvenirs of the 3-2 success. Behaviour could be excessive, but it was without the malice that would emerge in the 1970s.

Particular service industries gave thanks, in any case, for the Scotsman's love of a rabid weekend in London. "The strippers in the Nell Gwyn club in Soho came on wearing tartan miniskirts," a veteran of Wembley said fondly. He had, though, found the entertainment earlier in the day even more absorbing.

The game fell in a period when Scotland seemed with talent. That season, Celtic won the European Cup, Rangers reached the Cup Winners' Cup final and Kilmarnock made it to the semi-final of the Fair Cup (as the UEFA Cup was then known). Exports such as Billy Bremner and Denis Law were mainstays of English clubs.

All the same, it is in Scotland's nature to be prodigal with its gifts. Jim Baxter, in particular, was both a syndrome and a footballer. The midfield player, with Sunderland in 1967, had perfect control, subtlety of pass and a marvellously perceptive mind, but he would be given a free transfer before the age of 30. Waywardness was not so much an aberration as the very essence of his nature.

In 1963 Baxter scored both of Scotland's goals at Wembley in a 2-1 win, but his adamantine had, his team been two ahead, he would have put the ball into his own net in the final minute just to complete a hat-trick. With Baxter as its draughtsman, it was inevitable that the victory of 1967 should be an eccentric structure.

There are other members of the side who still wonder why Scotland could not simply have drubbed England, so creating a new legend to put the side were flustered by Geoff Hurst's goal and needed good saves from Ronnie Simpson to keep them in front. Perhaps it was fitting that glory should be achieved on the very edge of calamity since, in Scottish football at least, risk was the spirit of the age.

Scotland forgot to capitalise as Baxter made memories

rather than goals: no country

will forget his audacity in

playing keepy-uppy. Towards

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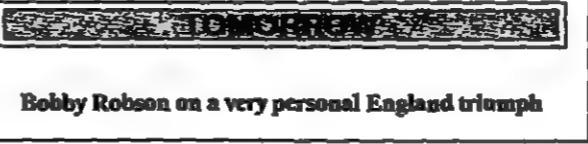
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Bremner and Baxter relish a famous Scotland victory



Bobby Robson on a very personal England triumph

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EURO 96

THE COMPLETE GUIDE

GROUP A

ENGLAND

DAY OFF

CAUTIONS: Adams, G Neville.

GROUP B

SPAIN

There is unrest in the Spanish camp, but it is nothing Javier Clemente, the coach, cannot handle. Clemente is known for his regimented approach and strict adherence to discipline. Imagine his disappoiment, then, when José-Luis Caminero was dismissed by discarding his present unhappy state. Caminero is a double winner with Atlético Madrid, but he is so unsettled that he wants a transfer. He cites family reasons and has been moaning to anyone that will listen: "I must leave the club." Italy is the favoured destination. Clemente was less than impressed. "I have had dozens of calls from journalists on this matter and so I went to see the player to tell him to forget it. He is here in the interests of the national team. If he doesn't understand that he won't play." Surprisingly, Caminero has since adopted a monkish silence on the subject. Strange that.

CAUTIONS: Caminero, Sergi, Amor, Abelardo.

GROUP C

GERMANY

The only team to win at the weekend had a day of "regeneration" yesterday, doing very little, apart from baths and massages and a cake to mark Thomas Hässler's 75th appearance for Germany against the Czech Republic. The only clouds concerned the defence, with the fear that the loss of Kohler could be even more damaging if the plethora of yellow cards continues. Babbel, his replacement, was one of Germany's six bookings. Kohler caught the 6.30am flight back to Munich accompanied by Professor Müller-Wohlfahrt, the orthopaedic specialist. One problem was solved yesterday. Three days after refusing to train at Macclesfield Town, Germany agreed to return there for two open sessions tomorrow and Thursday. Anyone hoping to learn the German secrets, however, will be disappointed — volleyball and head tennis are on the agenda for sessions more geared to public relations.

CAUTIONS: Reuter, Hässler, Müller, Kuntz, Babbel, Ziege. PB

GROUP D

DENMARK

There was no doubt about which team was the happier with the result of Sunday's 1-1 draw at Hillsborough. The Portuguese slunk away as the Danish players fitted around, eyes gleaming, pulses racing. "We lost the second half but won it and then we won the second half but lost it," was Thomas Helveg's philosophical summation of how Bjarne Laudrup put Denmark ahead against the run of play and how the Portuguese equalised when Portugal became more mobile and threatening. Bizzarely, Richard Möller Nielsen is rarely credited with any tactical nous, even after Denmark won the tournament four years ago, and his role was largely overlooked. But, undeterred, he was at it again on Sunday, bringing in the tall, strong Larsen immediately to spot Portuguese fitness. The efforts exhausted the team but they have a week to recover before facing Croatia. Schmeichel's tip for the tournament.

CAUTIONS: Risager, Helveg.

SWITZERLAND

Though Switzerland's deserved draw at Wembley three days ago might not have pleased too many Englishmen, Peter Bonetti, the former Chelsea goalkeeper, could claim to be an honorable exception. Bonetti's father, Joe, was born in Tilney, the small, hilly-sounding region of Switzerland. Peter spent many of his formative years on holiday halfway up a mountain in the village of Chironico. They were also based in the Socha on Saturday night. Louison's only Swiss restaurant, Sandi Morris, is the cosy eatery of Arnulf Loeffacher, owner for 30 years, and is as popular with football supporters as it is with spectators. Peter Gabriel has been known to pop in for a fondue. Deep Purple have grazed at the six television sets, simultaneously, and AC/DC have partied long into the evening. Could be another heavy session if Holland are beaten on Thursday.

CAUTIONS: Vogel, Quentin, Grasse, Vega.

BULGARIA

There is a feeling amongst those in the know that the Bulgarians have the technique and tactical cunning to win this championship, but not the legs. Not so, says Jordan Letchkov, one of the younger members of the squad, despite his slimming diet. Letchkov believes that the travelling band of talented Bulgarians have one last big championship in them and confidently predicted a fine performance in a promising opening display against Spain. "We are getting that feeling again, one of togetherness, and achievement," he said. "We will get better and better and stronger and stronger as the tournament progresses and we will be at our best in the final." Letchkov quotes Bulgaria at 25-1 for the tournament, an untypically generous price given the pedigree of the team. They might just be a worth a bob or two.

CAUTIONS: Stoichkov, Kischitshev, Tsvetanov.

CZECH REPUBLIC

Only now is it sinking in to the Czechs just what the phrase "Group of Death" really means. Their 2-0 defeat by Germany has hit the camp hard. They left Old Trafford in haste, returned to their hotel in Preston and stayed up until the small hours watching every terrible second of their opening Euro 96 fixture. There will not be wholesale changes for their next match against Italy on Friday but Patrik Berger, whose omission from the starting line-up was a surprise, will be named for the game at Anfield having looked more impressive than most when he came on as a substitute. Zuzan Uhran, the coach, might have been expected to have the players working out and eating plenty of protein yesterday. "Germany were by far the fitter and and stronger," he said - but no, the Czechs were all napping, so little sleep did they have after a night of video nasties.

CAUTIONS: Kadlec, Drulak, Bejbl, Nechived.

HOLLAND

Holland's media guide is a splendidly compiled effort, a brief yet concise Who's Who of the Dutch squad. However, it has either experienced a few hiccups in the translation or Gurus Hiddink's players really are a rather strange lot. How else do you explain the fact that Winston Bogarde, nicknamed "Boogy" by his team-mates, "plays with a lot of gold at his hands"? Aron Winter, the Lazio midfield player, "spends a lot of time in his Porsche"; Peter Hoekstra, of Ajax, "can juggle with a tennis ball"; and Ed de Goey, the goalkeeper, has his own chant "Say ooh, ahh, Ed de Goey". Eric Cantona set your heart out. Spots a thought, though, for poor Gaston Taument, the Feyenoord winger, who was once a "dress-man" and, apparently, is also a "proud father of a twin". Sadly, it does not divulge how this extraordinary phenomenon occurred.

CAUTIONS: Witschge, Taument.

ROMANIA

Temporarily domiciled between Darlington and Newton Aycliffe, Romania are much taken with the former town. "The players love it," a squad spokesman said. "Some have said they'd like to live here." Hagi and Co are not the only ones. Romanian journalists seem similarly smitten by the Quaker town. One was even spotted portering hunting in the general store at Barton, a village six miles south of Darlington yesterday. There is certainly healthy Romanian media presence because that country's December 1989 revolution heralded an information boom. Romania now houses 145 radio stations and 82 television stations, in addition to 967 newspapers and more than 200 magazines. Newcastle supporters cannot need enough about their team, but were looking forward to watching Florin Rduculescu last night. He was one of 21 fit players, the unlucky man being Bresca's Ovidiu Sabau who has pulled a hamstring.

LT

ITALY

The irony was not lost on Arrigo Sacchi, the Italian coach. The conference organiser very nearly became apologetic as he instructed the cameras crew at yesterday's press conference to move either to the left or to the right, but to stay away from the middle of the lecture hall. It was like watching a poor manager attempting to organise an even poorer team. Sacchi laughed and invited the circus act. It was no joke to the corner crew, however, and blasphemous insults were uttered from behind throughout. The plot thickened, meanwhile, after Vieilli was left behind. Although Sacchi said he still feels very close to Vieilli's motivation and respects him as an athlete, one passage is missing" came the translated explanation. We may be a united Europe, but there is much that still divides us.

AR

SCOTLAND

It is not often that the Scottish Football Association is identified with the cause of the common man, but on Sunday it found itself fighting on behalf of supporters against unfeeling officialdom. As so often in these matters, the struggle was unavailing. The organisers of Euro 96 declined to throw open the doors of Villa Park so that Scotland's followers might attend the training session. The team and its 8,500 admirers were only united yesterday for the match with Holland. Scotland's allocation had not sold out until late last week, but enthusiasm, if delayed, was still heartfelt. Before the game, a brisk trade was in progress with supporters eagerly buying T-shirts bearing the blubbering image of Paul Gascoigne, from 1990, and the legend "I'd be crying too if I was English". It is generally thought best to sport such garments before Scotland have had the chance to suffer travails of their own. CAUTIONS: Boyd, Gallacher.

FRANCE

While the English squad's only form of protest seems to be when the bar closes, France are a little more sensitive. They have taken time out from the championship to promote political and cultural issues. First it was backing for the campaign against French nuclear testing in the Pacific; now it is support for aids charities. In training, the French players wear T-shirts with the legend "Solider Side" emblazoned on the front. It is an Aids charity run by Antoine De Caunes, that smoothie presenter who seems to pop up late at night on Channel 4 all the time. The French have even filmed a television advert for the station TF1, to promote awareness amongst young people about the virus. Maybe the England squad should take a leaf out of the French book and promote something similar. Now what would be an appropriate cause? Alcohol awareness maybe?

RUSSIA

The Iron Curtain stayed firmly down across Lancashire yesterday, making its first appearance at Anfield as well as its more familiar setting around Russia's hotel. Journalists from Italy, Spain and France, as well as England and Russia, turned up to the Russian headquarters outside Wigan in the morning expecting a press conference, but were turned away. The players were kept in the hotel until all the journalists had left. Later, the team trained behind closed doors at Anfield in preparations for this afternoon's match with Italy.

"There is no violation of Uefa instructions," Dr Vlacheslav Koloskov, the president of the Russian Football Association, said. "We were instructed that prior to the first match there would be one press conference and one open training session. We had them on Friday. So no one will be available. You will know the team line up one hour before the match and no more."

KM

CROATIA

Croatia are now cosily hidden away on the banks of Rutland Water, Leicestershire, but were given a good luck message on their departure from Co. Monaghan, their previous base. It came from Carrickmacross Rovers AFC and is magnificently Irish. "We can identify with you because you have come amongst us, walked where we walk and breathed the air we breathe," it read. "We can identify with you, small nation to small nation; small but unique. Football has been for us in Ireland a liberating influence; an opportunity to establish an identity; to proclaim our essential difference through playing the beautiful game... this support we offer you, a fledgeling nation but an ancient and indomitable people. "They will not be home in Zagreb or Split to hear the pulses of your own people. Therefore, let these words speak for them. Make Your Mark."

RK

MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE

GROUP A

England 1 Switzerland 1
Shearer (23) Turkey/Ireland (83 pen)
(at Wembley, attendance 76,567)Holland 0 Scotland 0
(Villa Park)Thur June 13
Switzerland v Holland (Villa Park, 7.30) BBC1Sat June 15
England v Scotland (Wembley, 3.0) BBC1Tues June 18
Scotland v Switzerland (Villa Park, 7.30)Tues June 18
England v Holland (Wembley, 7.30)

GROUP B

Spain 1 Bulgaria 1
Alfonso (73) Stoichkov (65 pen)
(at Elland Road, attendance 26,006)

Not including last night's match at St James' Park

Thur June 13
Bulgaria v Romania (St James' Park, 4.30) ITVSat June 15
France v Spain (Elland Road, 8.0) ITVTues June 18
France v Bulgaria (St James' Park, 4.30)Tues June 18
Romania v Spain (Elland Road, 4.30)

GROUP C

Germany 2 Czech Republic 0
Ziege (25) Möller (31)
(at Old Trafford, attendance 37,300)Today
Italy v Russia (Anfield, 4.30) BBC1Fri June 14
Czech Republic v Italy (Anfield, 7.30) ITVSun June 16
Russia v Germany (Old Trafford, 3.0) ITVWed June 19
Italy v Germany (Old Trafford, 7.30)Wed June 19
Russia v Czech Republic (Anfield, 7.30)

GROUP D

Denmark 1 Portugal 1
B Laudrup (21) Sa Pinto (52)
(at Hillsborough, attendance 34,993)Today
Turkey v Croatia (City Ground, 7.30) ITVFri June 14
Portugal v Turkey (City Ground, 4.30) BBC1Sun June 16
Croatia v Denmark (Hillsborough, 8.0) BBC1Wed June 19
Croatia v Portugal (City Ground, 4.30)Wed June 19
Turkey v Denmark (Hillsborough, 4.30)

PWDLFA Pts

England 10 1 0 1 1 1

Switzerland 1 0 1 0 1 1 1

Holland 1 0 0 0 0 0 1

Scotland 1 0 0 0 0 0 1

PWDLFA Pts

Spain 10 1 0 1 1 1

Bulgaria 1 0 1 0 1 1 1

Romania 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

France 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

PWDLFA Pts

Germany 11 0 0 2 0 3

Czech Rep 1 0 0 1 0 2 0

Italy 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Russia 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

PWDLFA Pts

Denmark 1 0 1 0 1 1 1

Portugal 1 0 1 0 1 1 1

Turkey 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

Croatia 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

QUARTER-FINALS

Sat June 22 Winners Group B v Runners-up Group A (Anfield, 6.30)
Sun June 23 Winners Group C v Runners-up Group D (Old Trafford, 3.0)

SEMI-FINALS

Wed June 26 Villa Park winners v Anfield winners (Old Trafford, 4.0) BBC1
Wed June 26 Wembley winners v Old Trafford winners (Wembley, 7.30) BBC1

FINAL

Sun June 30 Wembley (7.0) BBC1/ITV

PREVIOUS WINNERS

1980 USSR

1982 Spain

1984 France

1986 West Germany

1990 France

1992 Holland

1994 Denmark

WINNERS-LIST

1996 England

1994 France

1992 Italy

1990 West Germany

1986 France

1984 Spain

1980 USSR

1976 West Germany

1972 West Germany

1968 France

1964 West Germany

1960 Italy

1956 France

1952 West Germany

1948 France

1944 Italy

1936 France

1932 Italy

1928 France

1924 Italy

1920 France

1912 Italy

Croatia supporters travel in spirit of independence

Barely a day to go to kick-off and panic had finally hit the volunteers at the Fanswelcome office in Nottingham's main square. The Turkish folk group had rung to say that they were stuck on the motorway and would be an hour late. Worse, the pipe band and six-piece orchestra were on the same bus. The Turkish vice-consul was not amused. His Ambassador was due any minute to open the city's Turkish culture day.

Other brows were furrowed, too. Where were all the Croats? According to disparate sources, the official packages had been too expensive for most of them, so a convoy of independently chartered coaches would be sweeping into town before sundown, a mere 24 hours before their country's opening match against Turkey. "They have set off from Croatia and are driving through Austria and Germany picking up passengers

on the way," Paul Johns, the head of Fanswelcome, the organisation set up to help supporters in Euro 96, said. "but we have no idea where they will be here." Nor any idea whether they would need tickets.

Only 2,600 of the Croatian ticket allocation had been sold for the three group matches, but, then again, Wembley expected a mere 200 Croats for the recent match and 2,000 turned up. Either way, they had to buy their tickets before 6pm yesterday because no tickets are on sale today. By last night, estimates suggested a crowd of 25,000.

Huddled underneath a parasol in the square, Vera Markos was still longing to put her degree in Serbo-Croat to good use. So far she had directed a few Danes to the shopping centre and talked to two Croats, who had both spoken immaculate English, and an Australian Croat from Melbourne.

"I've heard there's a Croat selling T-shirts at the station," she said. "You might try there."

In the accommodation bureau, Linda Brentnall had a 600-berth camp-site and two leisure centre floors available for the late influx. By yesterday morning only 12 places had been taken. Unfortunately, the Turkish entrepreneur who had hired a 300-seat aeroplane had suffered a heart attack last week and the package had been cancelled. Still, she was ready and waiting for action. "It's quite exciting," she said.

Potentially, the Catholic Croats against the Muslims of Turkey at the City Ground tonight could be one of the more explosive fixtures

in the championship. The Croats were subjected to Austro-Hungarian rule when not under the yoke of the Ottoman Turks, but any lingering resentment from the Bosnian conflict has been subsumed, temporarily at least, in the delight of actually competing. "Religion? You ask about something I cannot answer," Paul Jenc, the secretary of the Croatian Democratic Union in the United Kingdom, said. "It is the first major tournament for our new country, the first time we can sing our hearts out for our country, not for Yugoslavia. It is a symbol of our independence. That is what is important."

Back in the Fanswelcome of-

fices, the news was getting worse. The Turkish folk group had been spotted at junction 20 on the M1, but Ozden Sanberk, the Turkish Ambassador, had already arrived. No, he said, there was no animosity between the two countries. On the contrary, the relationships had been strengthened through the civil war... but he wanted to talk about the spirit of Robin Hood. "We are both Mediterranean people, passionate, full of mood, but we also have a strong sense of sharing," he said. "Robin Hood is the symbol of Nottingham and of all people fighting for justice. Maybe we have sympathy with that."

Just how many Turks will make

the journey to Nottingham was also a matter for speculation. Many of the original allocation of 11,000 tickets had been returned and visas had not been freely granted in Istanbul for fear of permanent defection. The Nottingham police had been told that most Turks would come over to London and travel up by coach on the day.

"We have had no intelligence reports about the likelihood of trouble," a police spokesman said. "You know as well as I do, these things can flare up on the night."

Both teams have been at pains to praise the locals for their hospitality. The Turkish vice-consul made a point of saying that he had been in the city five days longer than his opposite number, "sort out problems like lost passports rather than anticipate any violence, but even the Turkish officials accepted that the neutrals would side with the red-and-white checks of the Croats, whose independence has

been won at such cost. "We do not mind," the Ambassador said. "If we were not playing against them, we would feel the same."

The atmosphere at the City Ground tonight will be considerably hotter than on a normal FA Carling Premiership Saturday, given the Turks' passion for firecrackers and the Croats' love of a song. "Viva Croatia" will ring out loud and clear, accompanied by a fluttering of red and white flags. "It is a song about the beauty of Croatia and the Adriatic, about the spirit of its people and about trying to win," Jenc said. "Everything that is in touch with Croatian feelings."

By early afternoon the Turkish folk group had appeared and were in full swing, watched by a small crowd of bemused locals enjoying a brief outbreak of sunshine. There was still no sign of the travelling Croats, nor of the lone trader selling Croatian T-shirts.

Denmark know their challenge is in safe hands

BY ALYSON RUDD



ed Newcastle in the closing stages of the race for the FA Carling Premiership.

On Sunday evening, he gave his full repertoire. There were huge leaps into the air to collect dangerous corner kicks, there was intelligent distribution, there were those moments when somehow he makes himself seem even bigger to block all view of goal for an incoming striker and there was impeccable timing.

And, of course, shouting. "We know to let it in one ear and out the other," Rieper, the Denmark central defender, said. Somehow, Rieper failed to hear any call in the dying seconds of the match and both he and Schmeichel tried to

clear the same cross. They collided, but Tavares, on as a second-half substitute, failed to guide the loose ball into the net. That single blunder did not affect Schmeichel's standing as man of the match.

Vitor Balá, the Portugal goalkeeper, is widely considered to be the world's second-best custodian after Schmeichel, but, on Sunday, there was no comparison.

Schmeichel was genuinely pleased with the result. "It is very important to get a point just to get you into the tournament," he said. That is why he refused to criticise England's performance against Switzerland. "In my book, they [England] didn't struggle," he said. "They played the game as I would have played the game. They were just very unlucky to concede a goal when they did."

Schmeichel doubts whether

any manager in the tournament would quibble with wresting a point from the opening match. "I think it is the attitude of the managers and the players that, if you have gone 1-0 up, you protect that and, if you concede a goal, then you have got one point so you are still very much in the tournament," he said.

This is very much a defensive view, but it does not stop Schmeichel from appreciating the attacking talents of the opposition. "I would love to see the Croatia v Portugal game because that is going to be terrific," he said.

Any England supporter ruefully wishing that people could look forward to this nation's fixtures with such relish can take heart. "England are a fantastic team, an experienced team with some good, young players," Schmeichel said.

"They have not played a competitive game for two years and to get away with one point is a very good result because I know, as a player, how you feel. The things surrounding the games, you think about them. The opening ceremony, you think about that. They'll come through."

BY ALYSON RUDD

Sacchi guilty of name-dropping

BY ALYSON RUDD

CHAOS reigned yesterday as Arrigo Sacchi, the Italy coach, announced the team that will line up against Russia at Anfield in a Group C encounter this afternoon. Sacchi proclaimed himself blessed with an abundantly-talented squad, but the flip side of that blessing is that he always seems to be omitting a big name.

The surprise yesterday was that Sacchi preferred Zola and Casiraghi in attack to Chiesa and Ravanelli. Convinced that the silver-haired Juventus forward and the Sampdoria prodigie had been dropped because they do not like each other, the Italian media fell upon Ravanelli as he emerged

from the team's training ground at Alsager, near Crewe. He was angry and denied the rumours. Sacchi referred to "several incidents" that have affected Ravanelli's overall form. When pressed, he said that Ravanelli had a tendon injury.

Zola was always likely to be first choice, but Casiraghi said that he was surprised at being selected. "Casiraghi is on very, very high form; a very good standard," Sacchi said. Sacchi is probably under more pressure than Terry Venables, the England coach, but he looked far from stressed. Sprightly and beaming almost constantly, Sacchi's secret appears to be his fatalistic approach.

"Having lost a World Cup final on penalties, which has

not happened to any other manager, I have come to the conclusion that it's OK, it's the way it had to end," he said yesterday.

The main threat to Russia pose to the Italians is their speed. According to Peruzzi, the Italy goalkeeper, Italy will rely heavily on a well-rehearsed offside tactic to prevent the likes of Kanchelskis, the Everton forward, reaching the penalty area. In their final warm-up game, against the Stoke City under-18 team, Italy concentrated intensely on their offside play and scored only twice. It is no accident that the team in the tournament that has the fewest goals, man for man, is Italy.

While maintaining that the team was not yet at its peak,

Sacchi refused to see any parallels with his side's opening game in the World Cup two years ago, when they lost to Ireland, saying that the team were now in better physical condition, their performance had improved, and that team spirit was stronger.

Sacchi was impressed by the performance of Germany against the Czech Republic, who were made to look a shadow of the side that clinched qualification. Germany, he said, were "extraordinary". England's opening game, on the other hand, he had not even seen.

ITALY (4-3-3): A Peruzzi (Juventus); R Manzini (Parma), P Maldini (AC Milan), A Di Livio (Lazio), D Alberini (AC Milan); A Di Matteo (Lazio); A Del Piero (Juventus); G Bini (Parma); P Mazzola (Juventus).

Organisers unworried by missing supporters

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

ORGANISERS of the European championship yesterday dismissed suggestions that empty seats are threatening the success of the tournament. Old Trafford was well short of its 55,300 capacity on Sunday, with a crowd of 37,300 watching Germany's 2-0 win over the Czech Republic in Group C. Only 24,006 saw the 1-1 draw between Spain and Bulgaria in Group B at Elland Road — a stadium that has a capacity of 39,000.

Glen Kirton, the tournament director, insisted that ticket sales have outstripped original predictions and that the attendances in Manchester and Leeds were not unexpected. "We have sold more than 90 per cent of the 1.4 million tickets available for the tournament as a whole — 20 per cent more than our original sales projection," he said.

"Nine games are sold out and a further four are near sell-outs. We expect that the limited number of tickets still remaining will be snapped up quickly as the tournament progresses and public interest builds. We are delighted that the opening match was a sell-out and that the Denmark v Portugal game at Hillsborough attracted nearly 35,000 spectators."

"Lower attendances for the other two matches played on Sunday reflect the fact that neither the Czech Republic nor Bulgaria took up their original ticket allocation of 7,000 per group match."

About 130,000 tickets are available for the rest of the tournament and they can be bought via the Euro 96 hotline — 099 099 1996 — up until five days before a match, or direct from the seven regional venues outside London the day before kick-off.

Tickets will also be made available at city-centre venues on match days, security permitting. A thousand supporters took up that option for the Elland Road fixture.

A limited number of places are still remaining for the match between Italy and the Czech Republic at Anfield on Friday.

Boban salutes his brothers in arms

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

IT SOUNDS almost pompous to announce that you are playing for a nation, the whole nation. Yet, when the Croatia players talk of their motivation for the European championship finals, it is impossible to disbelief or poke fun at them. Their country, caught up in the Balkan conflict, is gradually recovering its stability — and Euro 96 means so much.

"This is everything to us, it is enormous," Zvonimir Boban, the Croatia captain, said. "We had four years of suffering. We have had only a year of peace, and we feel a great nationalism, a great patriotism. We have to prove ourselves, for everyone."

Croatia take on Turkey in Group D at the City Ground, Nottingham, this evening with Boban, the AC Milan midfield player, still unsure of how they will react on their debut in a leading tournament. "We are like a bomb; it is unpredictable," he said. "We could go out in the first round, or we could go on to win it."

Croatia point to Croatia's individualism — too many generals and not enough soldiers — as a weakness. "It is true, we are not always a team," Boban said, "but we

have a tremendous spirit. We are the best of friends. It is like having an extra man."

Turkey, also making their bow in the European finals, hope to extend their stay beyond the group phase. "It was a major achievement for us to qualify, but that is not enough," Fatih Terim, the Turkey coach, said yesterday. "We want to prove that we are more than just a surprise team. We want to be successful."

Turkey have lost only five matches, from 30, under Terim's guidance.

While ten of the probable Croatia starting line-up play abroad, Turkey's entire 22-strong squad is based at home. Not for long, perhaps, with many looking to raise their profiles, and bank balances, by moving to Western Europe. They are already appreciative of the get-rich-quick qualities of the FA Carling Premiership.

"I want to play abroad and my priority is England," Abdullah Ercan, the Trabzonspor midfield player, said. "I am not the only one. There are four or five of us. I like England, not only because of the style of play, but because each club is followed by around 20,000 fans." He clearly has not heard of Wimbledon.

Uefa tell referees to carry on booking

BY PETER BALL

IN SPITE of a sea of 30 yellow cards in the first four matches, the message from Uefa to the referees was quite unequivocal yesterday: keep on booking. Six of the eight teams involved were fined as the governing body of European football responded to the criticism by supporting its officials.

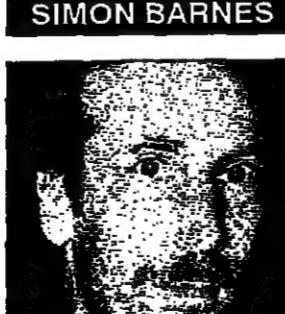
"Referees shall continue to be firm in carrying out their duty," Lennart Johansson, the Uefa president, said in a message to all 16 competing teams. That effectively shut the door on hopes that the heavy-handedness of some of the refereeing would be lightened.

The ratio of bookings to matches at the moment is 7.5 per game. The 1994 World Cup, the first tournament in which the new directions to referees came into effect, had an average of 4.5. That represents a staggering increase, especially as the tackle from behind, the original target along with the "professional foul", has hardly been seen.

It increases fears that, by the quarter-finals, defenders will hardly feel able to make a tackle, or squads will be decimated by suspensions, though. Instead, Johansson insisted

Self-destruct reflex goes awry

SIMON BARNES



playing a completely different game, one with only tenuous similarity to their own.

It was a strange contest, the Dutch so swift, so sleek, so dangerous. It was like the wonderfully dreadful old movies you see when aliens invade some peaceful hick town in the great Midwest.

Scotland may have lost 15-1 on corners, but that matters not a jot. The pressure that the Dutch put on the Scottish defence was colossal, but somehow the dyke was never breached.

For the first ten minutes it seemed that I was back playing Wigan play Bath at rugby league. The Scots, utterly overwhelmed, were used to

it all worked — astonishingly, impossibly. For the Dutch could not sustain their speed tactic of those frightening first minutes, and Scotland grew in the belief that these simple and ancient virtues could yet earn them some kind of result.

It all got rather bewildering for the Dutch, who found themselves transported to this footballing Brigadoon, this land of lost footballing virtues. The spell of the throwback had them all in its thrall, and only a goal could break the enchantment. It never came.

They do not give you a tackle-count in the post-match statistics, as they do in rugby league, but, if so, Collins might have topped the Scotland tally. It was his hand, too, that denied Holland when Goran, the goalkeeper, was beaten, but the referee saw nothing.

In fact, the only normal thing about this Scotland team is the fact that they now have a decent goalkeeper. To see Goran intervening with such confidence made you wonder if this was really a Scotland team that we were watching.

It is a mistake to believe that the desperate rearguard actions in the face of overwhelming superiority are shattering to the confidence. It is, in fact, quite the reverse. Scotland grew in self-delusion.

England to fail? A mischievous thought, I know, but one that is certainly mathematically and, perhaps, even emotionally possible.

You kept waiting for the final twist, the last-second act of self-destruction, the nineteen-minute own goal, unjust penalty, horrendous error. It never came. So another tradition goes out of the window, is nothing sacred?

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Smarter, richer, but unmistakably Arthur

Arthur Daley never had a lot of money but what he had he invested sensibly. He was forever rushing round to that building society, you will find, torturing rhyming couples while he deposited a pony or a monkey or some such unit of currency. Well now, he really is laughing all the way to wherever it was. That building society has been taken over and the bonuses have turned Arthur into a wealthy man.

He now owns a string of hairdressing salons ("there's good money in Barneys," *Terry*), a classic car and a restaurant. But for goodness' sake don't tell 'er indoors about that last one — it's meant to be a secret. Oh, and one last thing — for reasons best known to himself, he prefers to be known as Freddie these days, Freddie Patterson. "Freddie? Arthur — you're pulling my..." "Terence, I jest not — and it's Monsieur Freddie to you."

As you may have gathered, *An Independent Man* (ITV) did not exactly break new ground last night, but then you do not call on George Cole to break new ground. You call on him to deliver yet another variation on the basic theme he has been delivering for more than 50 years. This he did as enjoyably as ever — a little richer, a little smarter and, unless I'm very much mistaken, a little more hair — but still instantly recognisable.

But apparently not quite instantly enough for the makers of this seven-part...er, comedy drama. For fear the transformation from Arthur, purveyor of dodgy deals to Freddie, righter of municipal wrongs, prove too much for us, they threw in a few helpful reference points along the way.

He may no longer take a sherbet with Dave down at the Winchester club but he does enjoy the odd sherry or shazaz at Alberto's. He

may have lost his fluency in rhyming slang, but his favourite tune is still the tinkle of "the Jewish piano". "Jewish what, Freddie?" "The cash till, my boy." I think it must be a north London joke. And just to make us feel thoroughly at home, Philip Hyde (John Salthouse), the leader of the local Labour party, is a dead ringer for Dennis Waterman — especially when he's angry, which conveniently last night, was most of the time.

The reason for Hyde's anger was that Patterson, shocked by the level of corruption he unearthed in the first 20 minutes ("there's something rotten in the state of Palmerstown") and outraged by the threat to two of his salons (not to mention Alberto's) by a crooked development scheme, decided to run against him as a Conservative in the council elections. This being the first of a new

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

series and Cole being a star it was inevitable that Patterson would win. Given the title, it was then equally inevitable that he would promptly cross the floor to sit as an independent.

Like all new series, *An Independent Man* needs time to settle down. The script, which ranged from the predictable — "I don't know anything about local councils" — "Excellent, just the sort of

man we need" — to the slapstick — a posh, Labour-supporting punk with "cut here" tattooed across his throat — was at its best pursuing a gently satirical middle ground. A theme tune faintly reminiscent of *House of Cards* may have been aiming a bit high, however. Freddie Patterson may be many things, but Francis Urquhart is not one of them.

The idea behind *Clash of the Titans* (BBC2), recalling great sporting battles of the past, is quite excellent. Its timing however, amid one of the busiest summers of sports for years, is somewhat eccentric and could well spark another round in the great domestic battle of *Soil 96*, the fight for the remote control. But James Hunt could always woo "the ladies" and I dare say a few more succumbed to his considerable charms last night.

Hunt v Lauda was the opening story in a six-part series and it is

difficult to imagine that any of those that follow can have anything like the same emotional impact. This was the story of the grand prix season of 1976, the battle between the cold precision of Niki Lauda and the cavalier, derring-do of Hunt. But, of course, as we all knew, it was more than that — it was the story of a man who turned his back on the dangerous world of Formula One, only to die in his bed at the age of 45, against a man who cheated death at the Nurburgring, a track at which he never wanted to race.

If the programme had a fault it was sticking with the stereotypes of 20 years ago, rather than giving the story a fresh perspective. Lauda was still the Teutonic computer brain, Hunt still the dashing daredevil, "the last of the great romantic drivers on the grand prix circuit". The retelling of the 1976 season

was enthralling, packed with incidents, rows and disqualifications long forgotten. But it was also salutary, especially to anyone who — like me — recalled Hunt's triumph through blinder teenage eyes. Lauda nearly died, Hunt didn't: where's the triumph in that?

The failure of the unmanned Ariane 5 rocket at least got space travel back on the front pages last week, for which I am sure Paul Berriff, director of *Astronauts* (Channel 4) is duly grateful. But goodness, this three-part documentary continues to be hard work. It is the consistent lack of surprise that is so trying. I don't mean I want accidents, but a few unexpected insights would be nice. Last night we learnt how astronauts go to the loo in outer space. The answer, as I am sure you have anticipated, is: very carefully indeed.

BBC1
6.00am Business Breakfast (64492)
7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (26051)
9.00 Breakfast News Extra (Ceefax) (2480053)
9.20 Morning Surgery (s) (1154258)
9.50 FILM: Charlie Chan and the Curse of the Dragon Queen (1981). An all-star whodunit with the inimitable oriental detective. Directed by Clive Donner (5634364)
11.30 Australia Wild. (8117)
12.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (7317988)
12.05pm Eat Your Words (s) (6889625)
12.35 Going for Gold (s) (401532)
1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (88850)
1.30 Regional News and weather (7285933)
1.40 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (55616121)
2.00 Allies Smith and Jones (s) (848411)
2.50 Holiday Outings (r) (s) (8481409)
3.00 International Tennis: The Stella Artois Grass Court Championships. From the Queen's Club, London (s) (2633)
4.00 Euro 96 Lives: Italy. Russia. Live coverage of the Group C matches between Italy and Russia (Ceefax) (s) (989492)
6.30 News (Ceefax) and weather (140)
7.00 Regional News magazine (9430)
7.30 EastEnders. Cindy is forced to confide in Gita after being caught with David (Ceefax) (s) (324)
8.00 **NEWS** Summer Holiday. The travel magazine returns, hosted by Jill Dando and Kevin Woolley. Lata Shama visits Florida. Emma Holmes spends a weekend in the Irish village made famous by *Ballykissangel*. Monty Don finds turtles, turtles and tranquillity in Turkey (Ceefax) (s) (5850)
8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart. Six months after Gary turned his back on 1940, Ron persuades him to return for the one big deal which will set them up for life. However, now it is 1941, and he may not get the reception he expects. With Nicholas Lyndhurst (r) (Ceefax) (s) (4985)
9.00 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (7324)
9.30 Flying Soldiers: Flying Blind. (4/6) Seven months into the course, only nine trainees remain. They face advanced instruction, which means flying day and night. The relentless hours of planning begin to take their toll (Ceefax) (s) (92071)
10.00 Cardiac Arrest. Scissors commits an act that may affect his career when he leaves a badly-injured drunk driver, who has killed a young woman and her unborn baby, to die (Ceefax) (s) (65324)
10.30 Euro 96. Highlights of this evening's game between Turkey and Croatia in Group D from the City Ground, Nottingham. Plus reports from the England and Scotland camps before Saturday's Wembley showdown (41701)
11.30 Love and Hate. First part of a Canadian mini-series based on the true story of a broken marriage. Colin Thatchell appears to be the model family man with the perfect professional life behind him, but his wife JoAnn knows he is a different person — a violent man — and decides to leave him (r) (Ceefax) (s) (736965)
1.05pm Weather (8657096)

BBC2
6.00am Open University: Seismology at Work (6621343) 6.05 The Founding of the Royal Society (6600850) 6.50 Geology of the Alps (3104904)
7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (847458)
7.30 Smurfs' Adventures (1158174) 7.55 Blue Peter (r) (Ceefax) (s) (7578237)
8.20 Penny Crayon (r) (Ceefax) (s) (6254053) 8.30 Philibert the Frog (r) (Ceefax) (s) (6245053) 8.40 The Record Limit (s) (3244481) 9.05 The Limit (8221782)
9.45 Watch (s) (9224237) 10.00 Playdays (r) (s) (2938633) 10.25 Come Outside (s) (5582817) 10.40 Lifeschool (s) (5544633) 11.05 Space: Art (s) (4927324) 11.15 Writing and Pictures (Ceefax) (s) (643633) 11.30 Ghoositter (s) (6458) 12.00 See Hear! (r) (22237)
12.30pm Working Lunch (99679) 1.00 Teaching Today (s) (7285765) 1.40 Hotch Potch House (r) (s) (3594701) 2.00 Penny Crayon (r) (s) (73863237)
2.10 Tennis: The Stella Artois Grass Court Championships (s) (6406333)
3.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (4731685)
3.05 Westminster with Nick Ross (Ceefax) (s) (4041818) 3.55 News (Ceefax) and weather (4433594)
4.00 International Tennis (s) (9720643)
4.35 Ocean Odyssey (Ceefax) (5188985)
5.00 News (Ceefax) (s) (8107053)
5.10 Act 10s (Ceefax) (s) (8085058)
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (176188)
6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (s) (147237)
6.25 Heartbreak High. The students go on work experience (Ceefax) (s) (108576)
7.10 The Ren and Stimpy Show (Ceefax) (s) (723011)
7.30pm Working Lunch (99679) 1.00 Teaching Today (s) (7285765) 1.40 Hotch Potch House (r) (s) (3594701) 2.00 Penny Crayon (r) (s) (73863237)
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7.10 The Ren and Stimpy Show (Ceefax) (s) (723011)



Sir Richard Rogers (7.30pm)

7.30 **CHOICE** Public Property. Sir Richard Rogers aims to improve Thames Valley University (Ceefax) (s) (986)
8.00 Cricket. Highlights of the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final (s) (6701)
9.00 Murder One: Chapter Fifteen. The trial is interrupted when Judge Bostrom has to dismiss two jurors who admit to being romantically involved (Ceefax) (s) (6854324)
9.45 **IMDbwatch: The True Story of the Roman Arena.** A reconstruction of the world of Roman Colosseum, where cruelty was an art form and violence was entertainment. New academic research and computer graphics help to reveal the true story of the arena events, wild beast hunts and mass executions with which the Emperor bought his popularity (r) (Ceefax) (934324)
10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (242275)
11.15 Moving Pictures. In-depth movie magazine (Ceefax) (s) (827140) 12.00 The Midnight Hour (s) (78560) 12.30am 6.00 The Learning Zone

CHOICE
Public Property
In the normal way a new library for Thames Valley University at Slough would hardly be worth making a programme about. But the architect is one of the best, Sir Richard Rogers, and, in the spirit of this enjoyable series, a man used to tackling the grandest projects has agreed to go over a budget, arguments break out between the client and the design team. There is even a hint of legal action. But despite running behind schedule and costing more than planned, Sir Richard's "beautiful shed" finally takes shape. Thames Valley University, and its students, should be properly grateful.

Human Jungle: Virtual Friends

Living in a city, claims this latest excursion into pop sociology, does all sorts of funny things to our personal relationships. Commuters see the same faces morning after morning on the railway platform, yet rarely speak to each other and would rather ask a total stranger to give them the time. The city offers the possibility for hundreds, if not thousands, of personal contacts but people in small rural villages make closer friendships. Technology, from the telephone to the Internet, brings us physically closer but increases emotional distance. We are well on the way to putting virtual friends in the place of real ones. Viewers may wonder about the authority for these findings, which is unspecified beyond such phrases as "Studies have shown that...". But this is a watchable series and its arguments ring true.

Fals Economy: The Failure of Success

The City of London comes under Will Hunt's lash as he continues his indictment of unmanaged capitalism. Banks are accused of short-termism, companies of being too much at the mercy of shareholders and the financial system as a whole of letting British industry drift into foreign hands. Hunt reckons that the Germans order things better. In towns no bigger than Evesham there are friendly neighbourhood banks willing to support small and medium companies and not demand their money back as soon as times get hard. Even in the apparently unbridled American economy, Hunt finds fruitful partnerships between public and private enterprise. Hunt is a trenchant performer, who makes his critique seem so reasonable that you wonder why the people in power have the audacity to ignore it.

Gayle's World
Tuesday, 10.40pm
Gayle Tuesday wears the briefest of skirts and the largest of blonde wigs, speaks in a soppy cooey voice and is a former pageant girl who fancies herself as an actress. This is her first television show. Her sofa guest is the podgy astrologer, Russell Grant, we get a taste of her film role as Emily Brontë and she treats us to a song she has recorded for charity. She is, you may have guessed by now, a spoof, created and played by a clever comedian called Brenda Gilhooly. Except that Gayle's voice shrieks so much that it is not always possible to hear what she is saying. This is an accomplished performance in a show which has all too accurately such targets as feminism, tabloid newspaper culture and television itself. On this evidence Gilhooly is the best thing in the genre since Caroline Aherne was. Peter Waymark

HTV
6.00am GMTV (7970701)
9.25 Supermarket Sweep (r) (Teletext) (s) (1149659)
9.55 Regional News (Teletext) (2915782)
10.00 The Time... the Place (s) (864362)
10.35 This Morning (7718512)
12.20pm Regional News (Teletext) (7308850)
12.30 News and weather (r) (4018459)
12.55 Shortland Street (s) (4068350) 1.25 High Road (Teletext) (7585317) 2.00 Home and Away (Teletext) (s) (88862463) 2.25 Murders, She Wrote (r) (8483965)
3.20 News headlines (Teletext) (4748895)
3.25 Regional News (Teletext) (4747256)
3.30 The Magic House (s) (8013701) 3.40 Tote TV (r) (3474140) 3.50 The Sylvester and Tweety Pie Cartoon Time (6224817) 4.05 Bungle the Little Helicopter (r) (s) (6240264) 4.15 Transylvania Pet Shop (Teletext) (s) (1598166) 4.20 Chris Cross (r) (Teletext) (s) (4928158)
5.10 The Dressing Up Show (3103701)
5.40 News and weather (Teletext) (8416159)
6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (s) (167091)
6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (251904)
6.50 Emmerdale. Ned catches Jen in a compromising position (Teletext) (s) (3048117)
7.20 Euro 96: Turkey v Croatia. Live coverage from the City Ground. Plus highlights from the Italy-Russia game (Teletext) (s) (4075237)
8.00 Murder One: Chapter Fifteen (s) (6854324)
8.30 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (176188)
9.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (s) (147237)
9.30 Heartbreak High. The students go on work experience (Ceefax) (s) (108576)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) (50482)
10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (450817)
10.50pm

HTV WALES
As HTV West except:
5.10pm Van Cook (3103701)
6.25-6.50 Wales Tonight (251904)
WESTCOUNTRY
As HTV West except:
12.55 Emmerdale (4068850)
1.25-1.35 Cross Wits (59538140)
1.55 Home and Away (7671445)
2.25 Liz Earle's Lifestyle (86612940)
2.55-3.20 A Country Practice (55920324)
3.10-3.40 Home and Away (3103701)
4.00-4.30 Westcountry Live (514701)
4.50-5.10 Prisoner Cell Block H (312633)
CHANNEL 4
6.30am Chicken Minute (83430)
7.00 The Big Breakfast (11701)
7.00 Golden Girls (r) (Teletext) (s) (77165)
9.30 Schoolie Eurotel (8914850) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (8924203) 10.10 Fourways Farm (5542053) 10.10 Co-Sister is Carson (128410) 10.30 The English Programme (50511) 11.00 Science in Focus (4519701)
11.20 Stage One (942616) 11.35 Schools at Work (703998) 11.40 GNVQ — Is it for You? (7718512)
12.00 House to House (80633)
12.30pm Sesame Street (r) (s) (88594) 1.30 Ovive (5982116)
1.55 Bicycle Symphony. A short film about a bicycle journey set to music of a symphony orchestra. Followed by Out For Fun. A look at the clichéd camera angles used in western movies (35928965)
2.20 FILM: The Awful Truth (1937). A comedy starring Irene Dunne and Cary Grant. Directed by Leo McCarey (Teletext) (s) (223343)
4.00 Beakdale (Teletext) (s) (121) 4.30 Fifteen to One (Teletext) (s) (633) 5.00 Ricki Lake (Teletext) (s) (7858256)
5.45 Terrytoons (9882256)
6.00 The Avengers (r) (Teletext) (s) (92968)
7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (450459)
7.55 The Slot (760782)
8.00 Human Jungle: Virtual Friends (Teletext) (s) (8188)
8.30 Brookside. Nell is worried that Georgie will not stick to her part of the bargain. Lao has a confession for Mick (Teletext) (s) (7695)
9.00 **False Economy: The Failure of Success**. Will Hutton continues his indictment of unmanaged capitalism (Teletext) (s) (1633)

CHANNEL 5
As HTV West except:
12.55pm Emmerdale (4068850)
1.25 Home and Away (59538140)
1.55 Shortland Street (59520324)
2.20 Liz Earle's Lifestyle (70767099)
2.50-3.20 Summer Painting (5524817)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3103701)
6.25-6.50 Central News and Weather (251904)
6.50-7.10 The Dressing Up Show (3103701)
7.20pm The Big Match — Replayed (4965541)
8.00-8.30 Surprise Cheats (3234817)
9.30 The Bill. Deakin investigates a violent attack on a small-time crook whom he suspects of having fallen in with bad company (Teletext) (s) (52099)
10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) (50482)
10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (450817)
10.50pm

CHANNEL 5
As HTV West except:
12.55pm Emmerdale (4068850)
1.25 Home and Away (59538140)
1.55 Shortland Street (59520324)
2.20 Liz Earle's Lifestyle (70767099)
2.50-3.20 Summer Painting (5524817)
5.10-5.40 Home and Away (3103701)
6.25-6.50 Three Minutes — Making It Happen (879324)
6.00

TUESDAY JUNE 11 1996

Fluent Holland thwarted by resilience of Craig Brown's team at Villa Park

Scotland take heart from luck of draw

Holland..... 0
Scotland..... 0

By KEVIN McCARRA

A RESULT at Villa Park yesterday that left the four teams in Group A on level terms saw Scotland earn themselves a sense of superiority. It was not, naturally, that they proved themselves the betters of the Dutch, but Craig Brown's team showed a resourcefulness and application that allowed them to withstand more powerful adversaries. "A draw is 100 per cent better than we are used to in the opening game of a tournament and, although we are not shouting about it, our team is hard to beat," the manager said.

"Bring on the English," Scotland's followers sang at the end. The swagger may yet prove ill-advised, but Scotland did have the level of fitness, honed in punishing sessions on the tour to the United States, that Terry Venables's pallid team had lacked on Saturday. By its very nature, of course, resilience requires time to be acknowledged and, in the beginning, the observer felt fear for Scotland rather than admiration.

To a degree, their plans were only a matter for conjecture, since most of the play in the first half forced them to disrupt their own formation as they tried to place improvised barriers in front of the Dutch. At one stage, Booth, the centre forward, was obliged to head back from his own goal for a corner kick.

Guus Hiddink's team had usurped the style that Scotland might have wished to adopt. The "total football" of the Dutch that the world so delights in praising does not

always feature studied, careful play. The flexibility of the men capable of employing it also encompasses flaying pace and bludgeoning directness.

Scotland, who might have imagined that they could disrupt Holland's rhythm, appeared shocked to find themselves so harried. Boyd was booked as early as the third minute, when he could halt Taumé only by felling him. Of course, the Dutch had more to offer than fierce speed and their accuracy allowed Brown's side no respite.

Those in the clamorous

midfield player, who joins AS Monaco next season, proved to have a much less dubious contribution to make. While it was impossible for he or McAlister wholly to stifle Holland's play-making, both men did insist on a place in the action. The recognition grew among the Scots and the Dutch that this was to be a protracted struggle, Brown's side reverting to a back four, knowing that it was the apt response to Holland's system of one striker and two wingers.

Scotland were never at their ease, but not a single save of note was required from Goran after the interval. Holland, however, did excuse him from action. The most majestic move of the game saw

David

in the 51st minute, sweep the ball wide to De

Boer, who invited Taumé to

provide the cross that Seedorf

headed down into the ground

and, on the bounce, over the bar. His team-mates will also bemoan the referee's refusal to award a penalty when, after an hour, McKinnie, appeared to bring down Jordi.

As the game moved to its close, Hendry waited to nod a header from Kluivert carefully off the goal-line and only a deflection thwarted Seedorf when he whirled and shot.

Throughout the match Scotland's attacks were little more than spells of respite. This, however, was not a day for Scotland to ponder their limitations. Instead, they were entitled to the boundless pride in the intransigence that their supporters acclaimed at full-time.

WHAT of this new generation of Dutchmen? Certainly, they are not as talented, as imperious or as experienced as the Johan Cruyff team of the 1974 World Cup. Nor are they as incisive and sure of themselves as the class of 1988, the European champions.

In the first half, once they

became distracted after missing those early chances, they elected to bat it out, to meet the frenzied tempo of Scottish football man against man. In this period, Clarence Seedorf and Edgar Davids put in so many tackles, so much fierce attrition, that heaven help

England if Gascoigne is on

half a lung again when they

Both these players were out

of position. Davids was asked to patrol in front of the back four. Seedorf effectively to play

off the main striker, who, for

much of this game, was Dennis Bergkamp. However,

Bergkamp, plainly, is no

centre forward. He lacks the

real courage to lead the line, lacks the relish to stand with

his back against markers as

hurtful as Hendry and

Calderwood. He prefers a

ghosting role behind a true

No 9. Yet Patrick Kluivert, so

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and, in a sense, has

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It had always seemed pre-

mature to make this Dutch

team favourites for Euro 96

when they had qualified

through the back door of a

play-off against Ireland. That

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Two things lifted the soul

of the audience at Villa Park.

First was the unremitting

approach of both sides, laced

with sportsmanship, as when

Stuart McNaughton immedi-

ately applied first aid when de

Boer fell wounded with



Collins appears to block De Boer's effort with his hand in the European championship Group A match yesterday. Photograph: Adam Butler

Dutch fail to match famous forebears

THE flowers of Scotland and the undeveloped bulbs of Holland gave England both a reason to feel relief and plenty to fear yesterday. The relief will come because Group A now stands all over again, all square, but the almost tireless thirst of Scotland, in chasing down and closing down the obvious technical supremacy of the Dutch, suggests that, if England do not, by some miracle, recapture a semblance of fitness and belief, then Scotland could hold them. It would mean that England would have to beat Holland in the final match to reach the quarter-finals.

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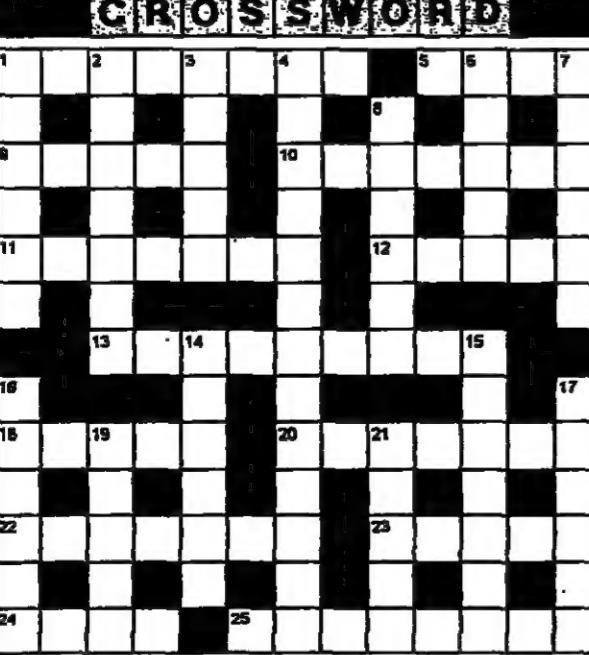
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TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 805

ACROSS

- 1 Wing crossing nave (8)
- 5 Steep cliff; wound mark (4)
- 9 Move with reluctance (5)
- 10 Considering everything (3,4)
- 11 Tale of chivalry; Latin-derived (language) (7)
- 12 Naive; grassy area (5)
- 13 Proposed (for office) (9)
- 18 Item giving advantage (5)
- 20 Rumour (7)
- 22 Very brave behaviour (7)
- 23 Australian marsupial (5)
- 24 Lug; betting system (4)
- 25 Borrowing charge; a hobby (8)

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RFU opts to stay isolated over television rights

BY DAVID HANDS, RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

CONFIRMATION yesterday from the Rugby Football Union (RFU) of its withdrawal from the joint negotiating process with the three other home countries over television rights and its acceptance of an exclusive £87.5 million offer from BSkyB, effective from 1997 to 2002, threatens the continuation of the five nations' championship.

Vernon Pugh, the chairman of the Welsh Rugby Union, will seek the exclusion of England from the championship in the 1996-97 season, though his colleagues in Ireland and Scotland are more cautious. "This decision will have inevitable consequences for the format of the championship," Fred McLeod, a vice-president of the Scottish Rugby Union, said. "We are pretty confident England will be able to make alternative arrangements for 1997-98."

Yet the other unions will have to consider the economic consequences of England's expulsion. BSkyB, the satellite television company which is 40 per cent-owned by News International, owners of *The Times*, has also offered a total of £96.5 million to Wales, Ireland and Scotland once the existing BBC contract runs out next March.

Of that sum, £22.5 million is guaranteed to go to the leading clubs, though, booted down, it leaves only £4.5

Finger of fate rules out Knight

WARWICKSHIRE have suffered the backlash of their own untrustworthy pitch (Alan Lee writes). Nick Knight, their opening batsman, will miss the Benson and Hedges Cup semi-final at Northampton today after discovering that he broke a finger while batting at Edgbaston.

Knight was struck on Saturday evening as he opened the England second innings, but it was not until the next day, after victory in the first Test had been secured, that the pain persuaded him to undergo a hospital X-ray. It revealed a fracture to the little finger of his right hand.

Early indications are that Knight will not be fit for two weeks, which would rule him out of the second Test, at Lord's. England, naturally keen to retain the personnel of Edgbaston, will give him every opportunity to prove his recovery, but it is another cruel blow for a player whose Test career just cannot get properly started.

The revelation of his third wounded digit inside ten months came after a game in which he made only 27 and 14 but fielded and caught well and looked very much part of a vibrant, confident side.

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